THE NEW
INDIAN EXPRESS
BENGALURU • TUESDAY • MAY 16, 2023 • ₹9.00 • PAGES 18 • LATE CITY EDITION

Go First row: NCLAT to pass order on aircraft lessors' pleas on May 22

The National Company Law Appellate Tribunal will pass its order on May 22 on petitions filed by three aircraft lessors against Go First's voluntary insolvency resolution proceedings. A two-member bench headed by Chairperson Justice Ashok Bhushan on Monday reserved its order after completing the hearing on the three petitions. The bench also asked the parties to submit additional documents in the next 48 hours.

G20
भारत 2023 INDIA

सत्यमेव जयते
GOVERNMENT OF
JAMMU & KASHMIR

Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

JUBILANT JAMMU & KASHMIR

JAMMU & KASHMIR
READY TO HOST
3RD G20 TOURISM
WORKING GROUP
MEETING

Srinagar, J&K
22nd–24th May 2023

591%
Growth in High-Density Apple Plantation in FY 2021-22, 6090 Ha Coverage

1.4 lakh Hectare
Of land under mustard cultivation

10 Lakh+
Kissan Credit Card Beneficiaries
11.7 lakh Farmers Aided
Rs. 1,706 Cr PM-KISAN Incentives

18.20 Metric Tonnes
Of Saffron Production, Highest in 25 Years

₹5013 Cr
Approved for holistic agriculture development program comprising 29 schemes

वसुधैव कुटुम्बकम्
ONE EARTH • ONE FAMILY • ONE FUTURE

Issued by: Department of Information and Public Relations, J&K

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to your kind notice, that my clients **Mr.C.Kiran Kumar Reddy S/o Mr.C.Chandra Sekhar Reddy and Mrs.Y.Deepthi W/o Mr.C.Kiran Kumar Reddy**, Both are R/at No.3, 13th Cross, 18th Main, Venkateshwara Laycut, B.T.M. 1st Stage, Madiwala, Bangalore-560068. has lost Registered Sale Deed dated 01/09/2005, registered on 06/09/2005, registered as document No. 6918/2005-06, the above Sale Deed registered before the office of The Sub-Registrar K.R.Puram, Bangalore, of the below mentioned Schedule.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of Property being flat bearing **No.G-1,** in the **Ground Floor**, measuring about **1400 Sq.feet** super built up area, consisting of **Three** bed rooms, Hall, Dining and Kitchen, together with RCC Roofing, ceramictile flooring aluminium Window, Sal wood Doors along with One covered car parking space, in the building known as **"VINAYAKA RESIDENCY"**, constructed over all that piece and parcel of the Immovable Property bearing earlier House list katha Nos.60/75 and House list Katha No.60/72, bearing common Mahadevapura City Municipal Council Katha No.94, (carved out of converted erstwhile Sy.No.44/2, vide Official Memorandum dated 29/09/1987, bearing No.8, Dis A.L.N.SR.S.26/1987-88) Situated at Cinnappanahalli Village, K.R.Puram Hobli, Old Nallurahalli Panchayath area, earlier Bangalore South Taluk, presently Bangalore East Taluk, along with **444 Sq.feet** undivided share of land in the total land measuring 3000 Sq.Feet, with all rights, appurtenances whatsoever hereunder or underneath or above the surface, and land measuring 3000 Sq.Feet, and bounded on:**East by :** Property belongs to Ms.N.J.Pushpa; **West by** : Private Property; **North by:** Private Property; **South by:** Road.

R. Santhosh Kumar Associates,
Advocates, Flat No.406, Motati Meadows, Nagavarapalya Main Road, Benniganahalli, Old Madras Road,C.V.Raman Nagar Post, Bangalore – 560 093.
Mobile No. 7259035293/08041718108.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby notified that, my client's named **Mr. SYED UMER FAROOQ,** aged 44 years, S/o. Sri. Syed Ameer and **Mr. SYED ROSHAN ZAMEER.** Aged 42 years, S/o. Sri. Syed Ameer, both are R/at, No-1172, Platform Road, Near Governament Kannada School, Vijinapura alias Kothur, Dooravaninagar Post, Bangalore- 560016. Were being the absolute owner had intend into sale the below mentioned Schedule property in favor of **Mr. PRABHU.C,** Aged 39 years, S/o. Mr. Chandrashekar, R/at, No-45, Lakshmi Sagar, Kuppam Road, Gattamadamangala Post, Bangarpete Taluk, Kolar Dist, Karnataka-563113.

Any person or persons, authorities, Banks, financial institutions etc, having any valid right, title interest or any claim over the Schedule Property or any portions of it in any manner may with documentary evidence lodge their objections/ claim within 5 days from the date of this notice with the undersigned, if no valid objections are received within the stipulated date, our client shall proceed on the basis that there are no claims of whatsoever nature with regard to the Schedule property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the Residential Property North Western Portion of site No. 96, Khatha No. 1/3/96/97 in Old No. 1/3, Situated at Vijinapura Alias Kothur, 6th Cross, Brindavan Layout, K.R.Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Now comes under the jurisdiction of BBMP Limits, BBMP Ward No-51, Earlier K.R. Puram CMC Limits, Ward No. 30, Bangalore, Measuring East to West: 30 Feet and North to South: 23 Feet, in all Measuring 690 Square Feet, together with all amenities., And bounded on: East by : Remaining North Eastern Portion of Site No.96 Belongs to Shabeena Bee, West by: 25 Feet Wide Road (6th Cross), North by: 20 feet Wide Road, South by : Remaining Portion of Site No.96.

CHAMPS ASSOCIATES
Advocates and Solicitors
No. 11, G-6, V.M.C. Complex, 10th Cross, Cubbonpet, Bangalore: 560 002.

PUBLIC NOTICE

All that piece and parcel of property bearing No.13/1 and 13/2 (Old portion of composite property No.1, Later 20 and again 13), measuring East to West 60 Feet and North to South 40 Feet Totally Measuring 2400 Sq.Feet, situated at Damodar Maduliar street, Halasuru, Bangalore together with structures standing theron, having PID No.81-34-13/1 and 81-34-13/2 Bangalore Mahanagara Palike, Bangalore, and bounded on: **East by:**Damodara Mudaliar Street; **West by** :Private Property; **North by**: Property bearing No.14: **South by**: Damodara Mudaliar Street Cross Road.

From its owners **Sri.N.R.AJANTHA KUMAR, Smt.N.V.LAKSHMI, Smt.N.U.MANJULA and Smt.N.A.SHOBHARANI** and Other Persons/ Financial Institutions/Firms having any right over the said property may lodge their objections/ claims with documentary evidence **within 10 days** from this date of publication to the undersigned.

R. Santhosh Kumar Associates, Advocates,
Flat No.406, Motati Meadows,
Nagavarapalya Main Road, Benniganahalli,
Old Madras Road, C.V.Raman Nagar Post,
Bangalore – 560 093.
Mobile No. 9963999870/08041718108

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client intends to purchase the schedule mentioned property from its owner viz., K. Mangal Chand and sons, (HUF) represented by Sri. K. Mangal Chand – Kartha S/o. A. Keval Chand Jain, aged about 63 years residing at No. 443, "Mohini", 13th Main, Srinivasanagar, BSK III Stage, Bengaluru – 560 050.

The public are hereby given notice that any person/s claiming any right, title or interest of any nature or having any lien, charge or enforceable right in respect of the schedule property or anybody having objection to the transaction may put forth their claims in writing with the undersigned together with supporting documents within 7 days from this date, failing which it will be presumed that no valid claims or objections subsist against the said persons and the schedule property is free from all encumbrances.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of residential property bearing No.443, PID No. 54-365-443, BBMP Ward No.54, situated at Srinivasanagar II Phase, BSK III Stage, Bengaluru – 560 085, measuring East to West: 40 feet, and North to South: 30 feet in all measuring 1200 Sq.ft. consisting of stilt, ground and two storied residential building having super built up area of 2900 Sq.ft. and bounded as follows:"ON THE EAST : By Road; WEST : By Site No. 462; NORTH : By Site No. 444; and SOUTH : By Site No.442, together with all rights, hereditaments and appurtenances above and beneath the schedule property.

Y.P. GOKUL, Advocate,
No.22, 15th Cross, Cubbonpet,
Bengaluru – 560 002
Mobile No. 9886176667
Landline No. 22224384

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General public that, our client Sri. Govinda Kishora S/o Sri.Purushothama Bhat resident of Bengaluru is negotiating to purchase the flat bearing No.B3-3A/201 in second floor, apartment known as "Providend Park square" from its present owners Purvankar Private Limited, which is morefully and particularly described in the schedule given below. Any person/s, Institutions having any objections for the proposed transaction of sale, and any claim in respect of the schedule property may lodged their objection/claim with necessary documents with the undersigned within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which our client will proceed to complete the sale transaction. Objections received thereafter will not bind to our client whatsoever.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the residential flat bearing No.B3-3A/201, in second floor, in the residential project known as "Provident Park Square" sanctioned by the BDA vide approval number 4142/2016-17 dated 26-12-2016, located on all that piece and parcel of non-agricultural land converted for residential use bearing Sy numbers 3/3, 7, 8, 9/2A, 9/2B1, and 26/1P collectively Measuring 74,458 Square meters situated in Mallasandra Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru 560062 the flat is having two bed rooms, one hall, kitchen, two both/ toilets totally measuring around 900 Square feets.

Sri. Prabhakar, Sri. S. Ravishankar,
Advocates
No. 210/3, 20th Main,
Near Siddalingeswara theatre,
J.P. Nagar 6th Phase, Bangalore-78.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public is hereby notified that my client Smt. Sujatha is the sole and absolute owner of the schedule Property.

1. The original sale deed, dated executed on 29-10-1987, Document number : BLN-1-29514/2006-07 registered at Bangalore North Taluk Sub-registrar office, Bangalore, executed by Smt.Sampoorna infavour of Smt.Indramma for the Site No.550 , measuring 40 x 115 Feet in totally 600 Square Feet, Andrahalli Village, Yeshwanthapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk , Bangalore, is misplaced/lost by client. In this connection, a police complaint has been lodged on 13-05-2023 online vide report no.0561275/2023.

Any Person finds the document may handover the same to the undersigned within 7 days from this day. If the said document is misused by anybody, it shall not be binding on our client and he/she shall not be binding on our client and he/she shall be doing so at he/their own costs and risks.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of immovable property bearing **Northern portion of Site no.550,** Assessment no.17, Katha no.791, Situated at Herohalli Village, Yeshwanthapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, presently comes under the limits of BBMP, ward no.40, measuring East to West: 40 feet and North to South: 15 feet in total measuring 600sqft., BOUNDARIES:

East : Road
West : Site no.575
North : Site no.551
South : Remaining Southern portion of Site no.550

ASWATH B, Advocate
#31, 5th cross, 23rd Main Road,
J.P.Nagar 2nd Phase, Bangalore -560078
Contact No : 9901944099
e-mail: aswath.bb@gmail.com

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice No. B/TRD.2023-24/02
Dated: 12-05-2023

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tender for the following work:

Name of work	Approx. Value
(i) OHE modifications due to proposed ROB No.478A of NHAI at Km.35/900-36/00 between Rajankunti and Dodballapur stations. (ii) Provision of new Isolator at Rd-3 ACC/MAPT siding at Thondebhavi station.	Rs. 13,64,610.75

Last date for submission of bids for:
Upto 15:00 Hrs. on 02-06-2023
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in

Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer, Traction Distribution (Construction), Bengaluru
PUB/92/AAD/PRB/SWR/2023-24
S.W.Railways SWRRLY SWRRLY

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are informed that my client **Mrs. SAVITHA** W/o Late. Anand, Aged about 42 Years Residing at # 130, Near Anjaneya Swamy Temple Kallubalu Bangalore - 83 is an absolute owner of the property bearing Old Sy.No. 6/3, New Sy.No. 6/20 East to West Nnorthern Side 107ft, Southern Side 84ft and North to South Eastern side 47ft, Western side 33ft, totally measuring 3811.5Sq.ft., (0.3 ½ guntas) and bounded East by : Road, West by : Property belongs to Chikkapapamma, North by : Property belongs to Bhagyamma and South by : Property belongs to Muniyappa Sons.

My Client had lost the Original sale deed during the transit while visiting the Bank loan purpose. Inspite of several efforts the Original Deed bearing document No. ANK-1-02244/2005-06 dated 26.04.2005, Anekal has not found and she lodged the police complaint through online.

If anybody is having any claim / objections / custody over the above mentioned original documents or if found the same they shall communicate or contact or return the same to below mentioned address

SHIVASHANKAR BOLAJADAR, Advocate
#76, 1st Floor, 10th Cross,
Cocount Avenue Road, Malleshwaram
Bengaluru-560003. Ph +91 8050467298

LOST DOCUMENT

It is hereby informed to the General Public that executed **Sri P.Giriyappa S/o Sri. P.Shivappa Gowda** Conveying the Schedule a **Property in favour of SANGARAYEE W/o Poovalingam, dated 31.07.2013 registered as document No.BYP-1-03589 / 2013 -14, C.D.No.BYPD 185 book No.1, registered in the office of Sub-register Bytarayanapura, Bangalore.**

Any person who found the same document may kindly hand over the same to the undersigned, also, anybody having any claims or rights can write to the undersigned **within 10 days** from this notice.

In case of any misuse by any person or third parties of the above said document, I am not responsible for such illegal transactions and if any transactions have taken place in respect of the same, it is not binding on my interest and title.

P. N. Ramakrishnappa,
M. Hemavathi, Advocates
HRV Associates, Office at No.99, First Floor, BGS Layout, Jakkur - Amruthahalli Main Road, Bangalore - 560064.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby informed that my client **Mrs. Honnamma G W/o. Late Sri. Puttaswamy Gowda V H**, residing at No. 207, Kabbala Krupa, 1st Floor, 33rd Cross, 2nd Main, Jayanagara, 7th Block, Bangalore Aadhaar No. 772149178439 had lost her **original Sale deed at document No. 13966/80-81, Book-1, Vol. No. 1649, pages No. 25 to 28 dated 09.04.1981 registered in the office of Sub registrar Bangalore south Taluk** in respect of **Site No. 7**, in Navodaya Layout, formed in Sy.No. 39 & 40 of Arehalli Village, Uttrahalli Hobli, Banaglore, Now Coming under Bruhath Banaglore Mahanagara Palike, bounded by East By: Site No.8, West By: Road, North By: Road and South By: Site No. 12 for which she lodge a police complaint for lose of original documents before the Bangalore City police at Lost Report **No.0562404/2023** dated **15/05/2023.**

Notice is hereby given to all concerned calling that if anyone found/notice above said original documents in public please inform my client or to me within Seven days from today. It is hereby inform that other than my client if any third person made any transaction over the above said property my client is not held responsible and same is not binding on my client.

S.D. LAW ASSOCIATES
Umesh .A, Advocate
No.87, Opp. 43A BMTC Bus Stop,
Vivekananda Nagar,
Bangalore-560085. (M) 9845930803

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are informed that my client **PRATHIBHA.K W/o SHAJI.K.M** aged about 39 years R/at No.206/1 S N P G, 23rd Cross, Doddanekkundi, Near Railway Under Bridge, Bangalore-560037, intends to Purchase the schedule property from **N.V.DEVIKA D/o Late Venkatesh Reddy W/o MUNISWAMY REDDY.R** aged about 44 Years R/at No.03, Ramakrishna Nilayam, Temple Road, Near vakiel Townshhip, Chikkathimasandra, Muthanallur, anekal, Bangalore-560099 Developed by **M/s Anand Estates & Developers**, A Partnership Firm FIRM/BSD/652/14-15, Having its Office at MIG/C673, 13th B Cross, 22nd main suryanagar Phase I, KHB, chandapura, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore-560081, represented by its Managing Partner Sri Anand S/o U.G.Govindulu for a valuable sale consideration.

If Persons/Financial Institutions/Firms having any interest, claim, title, ownership or right over the schedule property may lodge their objections/claims with the undersigned counsel with documentary evidence **within 10 days** from this date of publication of this notice, failing which my client will proceed with the said transaction complying with all legal formalities.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of property bearing Site No.212, E-Katha No.150200102100820419, measuring **East to West 15.24 mtr, and North to South 9.14 mtr, totally measuring 139.29 Sq.mtr,** formed in converted Sy No.35/2, measuring 1 Acres 28 Guntas, converted for residential purpose vide Conversion Order No.ALN (A.S.H) SR /148/2014-15, dated 21/02/2015, sanctioned by the Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore Urban District, Bangalore, in the layout known as "SUN SPARKLE" Plan sanctioned vide No. APA/LA0/96/14-15, site released date date17/09/2019, situated at Alibommasandra Village, Sarajapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District, with all rights, appurtenances whatsoever hereunder or underneath or above the surface and bounded on the:**East by:**Site No.199; **West by** : 12.19 Mtrs Road; **North by** : Site No.213; **South by :** Site No.211;

R. Santhosh Kumar Associates,
Advocates, Flat No.406, Motati Meadows, Nagavarapalya Main Road, Benniganahalli, Old Madras Road,C.V.Raman Nagar Post, Bangalore – 560 093.
Mobile No. 08041718108 /9739538742.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public is hereby notified that my client Smt. R. Deepika is the sole and absolute owner of the schedule Property.

1. The original sale deed, dated executed on 29-10-1987, Document number :6025/1986-87 registered at Bangalore South Taluk Sub-registrar office, Bangalore, executed by Kendriya Upadhyara Sangha infavour of Mr. B.G.Anjanappa, for the Site No.58 , measuring 9.14 x 12.19 Mtrs in totally 111.42 Square Meters , Hongasandra Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk , Bangalore, is misplaced/lost by client. In this connection, a police complaint has been lodged on 13-05-2023 online vide report no.0561222/2023.

Any Person finds the document may handover the same to the undersigned within 7 days from this day. If the said document is misused by anybody, it shall not be binding on our client and he/she shall not be binding on our client and he/she shall be doing so at he/their own costs and risks.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of residentially property bearing Municipal no.58, PID no.66-190-58. Formed in Sy.no.45 and 47 Situated at Jakkasandra Village, Begur Hobli, and Bangalore south Taluk. Presently within the limits of BBMP. measuring East to West 9.14 metres and North to south 12.19 Metres feet in all measuring 111.42 sq.meters and bounded on BOUNDARIES:

East by : Site no.57
West by : Site no.59
North by : Site no.81
South by : 40 feet road

ASWATH B, Advocate
#31, 5th cross, 23rd Main Road,
J.P.Nagar 2nd Phase, Bangalore -560078
Contact No : 9901944099
e-mail: aswath.bb@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

Our clients intend purchasing the Schedule Property from one M/s. ABH Infrastructure represented by its Partner Sri. Hanumantharayappa and M/s. Guru Punvaani Properties represented by its Authorised Partner Mr. Sanjay Kumar. Any person/s having any claim/s over the Schedule Property or any objection for the purchase of the Schedule Property by our clients may lodge his/her/their claim/s and objection/s to the undersigned with documentary proof **within 15 days** from today, failing which, it will be deemed that there are no claim/s or the objection/s and/or claim/s if any, has/have been given up and our clients will proceed ahead with the transaction of purchasing the Schedule Property as being free from any or all claim/s, right/s, encumbrance/s etc.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of immovable property being undeveloped industrially converted land in Sy.No.180/6, earlier portion of Sy.No.180/1, much earlier portion of Sy.No.180, "Plot No.33", measuring on the East 113 feet 9 inches, West 110 feet, North 93 feet South 89 feet, duly converted to non-agricultural industrial purpose vide Official Memorandum dated 14.12.2021, Application No.221571, passed by the Deputy Commissioner, Bengaluru Urban District, situated at Kumbalagodu Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, now within the jurisdiction of Kumbalagodu Village Panchayath, together with all rights, appurtenances whatsoever underneath or above the surface and bounded on the:

East by : KIADB Industrial Area;
West by : Plot No.32;
North by : Plot No.34;
South by : 40 feet Road.

Abhinav .R, Advocate
M/s. Kumar & Kumar, Advocates
"Central Chambers" F-113, 3rd Floor, 2nd Main Road, Gandhinagar,
Bengaluru - 560009. Date: 15.05.2023

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client is doing due diligence after entering into agreement to sell for purchasing the schedule property hereto from its present Owner.

Hence, Any person/s, companies, Banks, Financial Institutions etc., asserting any right, title, interest or claim in the schedule property or any part thereof in any manner or having any claim/s against the schedule property or the documents thereof, or against the owner of the Schedule property by objecting to such sale in favor of my client should write to the undersigned within **SEVEN DAYS** of the issuance of this public notice with all documentary proof on which they are basing and asserting their rights with regards to the schedule property or any part thereof, after which period my client shall thereafter complete the sale transaction on the basis that there are no claims of whatsoever nature with regards to the schedule property.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of immovable property in the form of residential property bearing Municipal No.2 (earlier having No.1864/2, earlier to that having CITB, Bangalore Site No.1864, II Stage, Rajajinagar, Bangalore), assigned with BBMP PID No.23-65-2, presently situated at BBMP Ward No.98-Prakashnagar (old Ward No. 23), 1" H Main Road, 'D' Block, Prakashnagar, Bengaluru-560023, measuring East to West 45 feet (12.716 Meters) and North to South 25 feet (7.620 Meters) in all measuring 1125 Square feet (104.516 Square meters)along with an residential house, comprising of ground floor, measuring 700 Square Feet in ground floor and 100 square feet in the first floor and bounded as under:-

ON THE **EAST :** Road; **WEST :** Site No.1861; **NORTH :** Site No.1863; **SOUTH:** Site No.1865;

J.BHASKAR REDDY, Advocate
No.106, 'Savithri Nivas', Railway parallel road, Kumarapark West, Bangalore-560 020.
Phone : 9880101301
e-mail : jbhaskarreddy76@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is represented to the undersigned by **Mr. M. Shivaraju** S/o Late Marappa, aged about 51 years, R/at C/o Sadashiva Sheeti, Prashanthi Nilaya, Near Theatre, Anekal Town that the below mentioned original document pertaining to the Schedule Property has been lost/misplaced.

Sale Deed dated 29-05-1975, Registered vide Document No 687/1975-1976, of Book I, Volume 1235, at page 1656 to 168, in the office of the Sub-Registrar. Anekal,

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

1) All that piece and parcel of agricultural property available within four boundaries and measuring 12 Guntas in bearing Sy.No.29/6. situated at Vabasandra Village, Jigani Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District and bounded by: **East:** Sy.No.30/4 belonging to Krishnappa, **West:** Sy.No.40/2 belonging to Amaranarayan, **North:** Sy.No.29/6 belonging to Lakshmamma W/o Veerabadharappa, **South:** Sy.No.29/4 belonging to Kempaiah S/o Avanna.

2) All that piece and parcel of agricultural property available within four boundaries and measuring 3 Guntas in Sy.No.30/5, situated at Vabasandra Village, Jigani Hobli. Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District and bounded by: **East:** Sy.No.30/3 belonging to A.Joseph, **West:** Sy.No.29/2 belonging to Kempaiah S/o Avanna, **North:** Sy.No.30/4 belonging to Krishnappa S/o Akkayyamma; **South:** Sy.No.30/6 belonging to Venkatappe.

Despite best efforts, the Owner is unable to trace the Original Documents for which, Police Complaints intimating the loss of the Original Documents have been filed with Anekal Police Station Bengaluru. vide: Reference No C Miss No 87/2023 dated 03-05-2023.

The Members of the public are hereby notified that in the event any person/s has/have found/ discovered/ and is/are in custody of the Original Documents, such person/s is/are hereby requested to return the Original Documents to the undersigned, at the below mentioned address.

H.R. Ravichandra,
No. 398, 11th Main, 3rd Block,
Koramangala, Bengaluru-560034.
Mob No.9844004466; Date: 11-05-2023

PUBLIC NOTICE

Our clients intend purchasing the Schedule Property from one M/s. ABH Infrastructure represented by its Partner Sri. Hanumantharayappa and M/s. Guru Punvaani Properties represented by its Authorised Partner Mr. Sanjay Kumar. Any person/s having any claim/s over the Schedule Property or any objection for the purchase of the Schedule Property by our clients may lodge his/her/their claim/s and objection/s to the undersigned with documentary proof **within 15 days** from today, failing which, it will be deemed that there are no claim/s or the objection/s and/or claim/s if any, has/have been given up and our clients will proceed ahead with the transaction of purchasing the Schedule Property as being free from any or all claim/s, right/s, encumbrance/s etc.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of immovable property being undeveloped industrially converted land in Sy.No.180/6, earlier portion of Sy.No.180/1, much earlier portion of Sy.No.180, "Plot No.33", measuring on the East 113 feet 9 inches, West 110 feet, North 93 feet South 89 feet, duly converted to non-agricultural industrial purpose vide Official Memorandum dated 14.12.2021, Application No.221571, passed by the Deputy Commissioner, Bengaluru Urban District, situated at Kumbalagodu Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, now within the jurisdiction of Kumbalagodu Village Panchayath, together with all rights, appurtenances whatsoever underneath or above the surface and bounded on the:

East by : KIADB Industrial Area;
West by : Plot No.32;
North by : Plot No.34;
South by : 40 feet Road.

Abhinav .R, Advocate
M/s. Kumar & Kumar, Advocates
"Central Chambers" F-113, 3rd Floor, 2nd Main Road, Gandhinagar,
Bengaluru - 560009. Date: 15.05.2023

MAHATRANSCO

Maharashtra State Electricity Transmission Co. Ltd.

EXTENSION OF SALE PERIOD FOR SRM E-TENDER NO. T-05/2023-24 RFx NO. 7000027177

The sale period & last date of submission for **RFx No. 7000027177, SRM E-Tender No.** T-05/2023-24 for Work of Augmentation of Substation by providing additional 1X50MVA, 220/33kV Transformer along with HV & LV bays on turnkey basis at 220kV Sayane Substation under EHV O&M Division, Nashik is **Further Extended up to** 23/05/2023 up to 13:00 Hrs **Date of Opening (Tech. Bid):** 23/05/2023 at 15:00 Hrs (If possible). **Kindly check for ammendent of MAF undertaking.** All other terms & conditions of the E-Tender will remain unchanged. For further details, please visit to **https://srmetender.mahatransco.in**

Sd/-
Chief Engineer
EHV PC (O&M) Zone, MSETCL, Nashik

GOVERNMENT OF PUDUCHERRY PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT YANAM DIVISION, YANAM

No.53/PW/EE/DB/YNM/2023-24 Yanam, Dt. 15.05.2023

E-TENDERING NOTICE INVITING BID BY EPC MODE

On behalf of the President of India, Bids are invited for the work of "Design, Supply, Construction, Installation and Commissioning of **Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) of 6 MLD Capacity based on SBR technology** at Mettacuru in Yanam including Construction of collection wells, pumping mains and allied works along the river bund to trap the used water flowing into the Coringa river including site development with filling, construction of retaining wall including Operation and Maintenance for 5 (Five) Years beyond defect Liability Period of 02 (Two) Years at Yanam on EPC mode of contract" costing **₹.18,48,65,000/-** (exclusive of GST). For further details please refer the website **www.pudutenders.gov.in** from **10.00 A.M. on 17.05.2023.**

No.070/DIP/AD(Press)/2023-24 **EXECUTIVE ENGINEER**

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, BERHAMPUR

(E-Mail:- serwbpr2004@yahoo.com, Tel/Fax:- 0680-2404287)
At:- Ambapua Po:- Engineering School Near Income Tax office, Berhampur-760011

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH e-Procurement

O-135 **Bid Identification No. Online Tender/06-2023-24/BPR**

Identification No	Name of work	No. of Works	Approx. Estimated Cost (in lakh)	Class of Contractor	Period of Completion
Online Tender / 06-2023-24/BPR	Road Works including 05 years Post Construction maintenance under Impvt. To Existing RD road for the year 2022-23	02 Nos	From Rs. 93.84 Lakhs to Rs. 413.49 lakhs	"B" Class & "A" Class as applicable	06 (Six) & 09 (Nine) Calendar Month as provided

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No	Availability of tender online for bidding	
		From	To
Chief Construction Engineer, R.W.Circle, Berhampur	Online Tender/06-2023-24/BPR	17.05.2023 at 10.00 A.M.	31.05.2023 upto 3.00 P.M.

(i) EMD / Bid Security, Cost of Bid document is to be transferred through Online as per the procedure mentioned in the DTCN.

(ii) Non-submission of the information/documents through online by the bidder as per the items mentioned in the eligible criteria of the DTCN will also liable for rejection of his tender.

Further details & Corrigendum if any can be seen from the website: - www.tendersodisha.gov.in

Sd/-
Chief Construction Engineer
R.W.Circle, Berhampur

OIPR-25071/11/0009/2324

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER PHULBANI (R&B) CIRCLE, PHULBANI

Email: sernbphulbani@gmail.com, Phone: 06842-254004

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)
Bid Identification No.CCE_R and B_PLB_01 of 2023_24
B-196 **No. 734 Dated. 27/04/2023**

1.	The Chief Construction Engineer, Phulbani (R&B) Circle, Phulbani on behalf of the Governor of Odisha invites percentage rate bid in double cover system in ONLINE MODE for construction of the Building works as detailed in the table below from eligible contractors.		
2.	Nature of work	:-	Building Works
3.	No. of tenders	:-	Three Nos
4.	Tender costs	:-	Rs.10,000/- (through online) only.
5.	Class of Contractor	:-	B class & A class
6.	Date & Time of sale & receipt of bids	:-	10.00 AM of 15.05.2023 to 5.00PM of 30.05.2023
7.	Date of Opening of bid	:-	11.00 AM of 31.05.2023
8.	The Bidders shall have to participate in online bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website https://tendersodisha.gov.in. Any addendum/Corrigendum / Cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website. The authority reserves the right to reject any or all bids without assigning any reason.		

Sd/- Chief Construction Engineer,
Phulbani (R&B) Circle, Phulbani OIPR- 34129/11/0001/2324

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AXIS BANK

Retail Lending and Payment Group (Local Office/Branch): Axis Bank Limited, # 45 Prestige Libra, 1st Floor, Regional Passport Office, Near: Urvashi Theatre, Lalbagh Road, Lalbagh, Bangalore – 560 027.
Axis Bank Ltd., 3rd Floor, Gigaplex, NPC – 1, TTC Industrial Area, Mugalsan Road, Airoli, Navi Mumbai – 400 708.
Registered Office: "Trishul", 3rd Floor Opp. Samartheshwar Temple Law Garden, Ellisbridge, Ahmedabad – 380006.

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 Sub Rule (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) (Amendment) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property is mortgaged/charged to the secured creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Secured Creditor will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is"** on **15th June 2023** for recovery of **Rs.22,60,028.00** (Rupees Twenty Two Lakhs Sixty Thousand Twenty Eight Only) in **loan account No: PHR000905051185** due as on **13.07.2021** with future interest and costs due to the secured creditor from **Borrower : 1). Mr. Adarsha Beranagudu Ramegowda** S/o Beranagudu Ningegowda, No.02, Near Anjaneya Temple, Tavarekere BTM Layout, Bangalore- 560029. **Also At:** Mr. Adarsha Beranagudu S/o. Ramegowda, Proprietor: Annapoorneshwari Traders, No.61, Munninarasimaih Garden, 7th Cross, Tavarekere Main Road, BTM 1st Stage, Bangalore, Karnataka 560029. **Co-borrower: 2) Mrs. Shalini** D/o Kalase Gowda, No.02, Near Anjaneya Temple, Tavarekere BTM Layout Bangalore- 560029. Please refer the appended auction schedule for necessary details:-

KNOWN ENCUMBRANCES (IF ANY)	**Not known to the secured creditor. The unpaid charges towards electricity, maintenance, Tax etc. if any, as applicable**
RESERVE PRICE (IN RS.)	**Rs. 19,04,094/- (Rupees Nineteen Lakhs Four Thousand Ninety Four Only)**
EARNEST MONEY DEPOSIT (IN RS.)	**Rs.1,90,409/- (Rupees One Lakhs Ninety Thousand Four Hundred And Nine Only) Through DD/PO in favor of 'Axis Bank Ltd.' payable at Bangalore**
BID INCREMENTAL AMOUNT	**Rs. 20,000/- (Rs. Twenty Thousand Only)**
LAST DATE, TIME AND VENUE FOR SUBMISSION OF BIDS / TENDER WITH EMD	**Till 14th June 2023 latest by 04:00 P.M. at Axis Bank Ltd, # 45 Prestige Libra, 1st Floor, Regional Passport Office, Near: Urvashi Theatre, Lalbagh Road, Lalbagh, Bangalore – 560 027, Addressed to Mr. Shaik Azuruddin.**
DATE, TIME, AND VENUE FOR PUBLIC E-AUCTION	**On 15th June 2023, between 11.00 A.M and 12.00 Noon with unlimited extensions of 5 minutes each at web portal https://www.bankeauctions.com e-auction tender documents containing e-auction bid form, declaration etc., are available on the website of the Service Provider as mentioned above**

DETAILS OF MORTGAGED PROPERTY: SCHEDULE- A: Item No.1: All that piece and parcel of residential converted land bearing Sy No.23 measuring 2 acres 2 Guntas of Doddaanagamangala Village, Begur hobli, Bangalore South taluk(with official memorandum bearing No. ALN (S:B) SR:99/09-10 dated 23.08.2012) and bounded as follows East by : Property bearing Survey No. 22 and 24/11, West by : Property bearing Survey No.25/2, North by : Property bearing Survey No.30, South by : Property bearing Survey No.24.

Item No. II: All that piece of the residential converted land, bearing Sy No.25/2 measuring 1 acres 31 guntas of Doddaanagamangala Village, begur Hobli Bangalore South Taluk,(Vide official Memorandum bearing no ALN(S:B) SR: 110/09-10 dated 23.08.2012 and bounded as follows: East by : Property Bearing Survey no 23, West by : Property Bearing Survey No.26, North by : Property bearing Survey No.30, South by : Property bearing Survey No 25/1 and 24.

(Composite Property): (Consisting of Item No.1 and 2)

All that piece and parcel of residential property converted land bearing Sy No. 23 and 25/2 having E-Khatha UID No.150200300600321529 totally measuring about 3 acres 33 guntas(or 15481.84 Square meters) situated at Doddanagamangala village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South taluk(Vide official memorandum bearing No: ALN:(S:B) S.R/110/2009-10 dated 23.08.2012 respectively and bounded as follows: East by : Property bearing Survey No.22 & 24/11, West by : Property bearing Survey No.26, North by : Property bearing Survey No.30, South by : Property bearing Survey No.24 and 25/1.

Schedule-B: 218 sq.ft of undivided share, right ,title, interest and ownership in the Schedule-B Property.

Schedule- C : Apartment/ flat bearing no.B/6/305, Konappana Agrahara Panchayat having E Khatha UID No. 150200300600322224, situated on the third floor of Block-6 "B" wing in the apartment complex known as ASWANI AAEESHA constructed on the Schedule A property A- Property

Measuring carpet area 377.44 sq ft(43.86 sq.ft) totally havig a super built up area of 545 sq.ft (50.65 Sq.mrs) which is inclusive of utility space, staircase and proportionate common area apartment to the apartment having, RCC Roofing, Vitrified and ceramic flooring, Flush Wodden Door and Aluminum windows, including proportionate share of common area of the floor, ceiling and walls between apartment jointly belonging to such apartment owners equally and bounded as follows: East by : Corridor, West by : Block-7, North by : Staircase, South by : open spaces.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in the secured creditor's website i.e. https://www.axisbank.com/auction-retail and the Bank's approved service provider M/S C1 India Private Limited at their web portal https://www.bankeauctions.com

The auction will be conducted online through the Bank's approved service provider M/s.C1 India Private Limited at their web portal https://www.bankeauctions.com.

For any other assistance, the intending bidders may contact Mr. Thrimoorthy at Axis Bank Ltd, # 45 Prestige Libra, 1st Floor, Regional Passport Office, Near: Urvashi Theatre, Lalbagh Road, Lalbagh, Bangalore – 560 027 (Mobile No. 91-919036773553 Email ID: thrimoorthy.s@axisbank.com during office hours from 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM

This Notice should be considered as 30 Days' Notice to the Borrowers/Co-borrowers/Guarantors under Rule 8 Sub Rule (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) (Amendment) Rules, 2002.

Date: 15.05.2023
Place: Bangalore

Sd/- Authorised Officer
**AXIS B

THE NEW
INDIAN EXPRESS

BENGALURU • TUESDAY • MAY 16, 2023 • ₹9.00 • PAGES 18 • LATE CITY EDITION

Subhnam Gill celebrates ton

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IPL ENDGAME: STATE OF PLAY

There may only be eight league matches remaining but seven teams remain in contention to advance to knockout. A look at the permutation and combination

7 TEAMS SEPARATED BY 3 POINTS

Holders Gujarat assured of a place in the qualifier but teams below them are jostling for territory including Mumbai and Chennai, who have nine IPL titles between them. CSK are 2nd and Punjab 8th, but the gap between them is just three points

4 As it stands, Lucknow and Mumbai are the only direct match-up among teams in the top four. Mumbai can confirm their KO berth just two wins

WHERE THEY STAND
(Updated till after the Gujarat vs Hyderabad match on Sunday)

TOP 5

Team	Mat	W	L	Pts	NRR
Gujarat	13	9	4	18	0.76
Chennai**	13	7	5	15	0.38
Mumbai***	12	7	5	14	-0.11
Lucknow***	12	6	5	13	0.30
Bangalore	12	6	6	12	0.16

BOTTOM 5

Team	Mat	W	L	Pts	NRR
Rajasthan	13	6	7	12	0.14
Kolkata	13	6	7	12	-0.25
Punjab	12	6	6	12	-0.26
*Hyderabad	12	4	8	8	-0.47
*Delhi	12	4	8	8	-0.68

*Already out of playoffs, ** Will qualify with one win, *** Will qualify with two wins (Only one of LSG/MI will be able to do this)

CSK HOLD DESTINY

Chennai, whose final game is at Delhi, will qualify as long as they win. Even if Rajasthan beat Punjab in their last game, they will need hand from other sides

CHENNAI ▪ MADURAI ▪ VIJAYAWADA ▪ BENGALURU ▪ KOCHI ▪ HYDERABAD ▪ VISAKHAPATNAM ▪ COIMBATORE ▪ KOZHIKODE ▪ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM ▪ BELAGAVI ▪ BHUBANESWAR ▪ SHIVAMOGGA ▪ MANGALURU ▪ TIRUPATI ▪ TIRUCHY ▪ TIRUNELVELI ▪ SAMBALPUR ▪ HUBBALLI ▪ DHARMAPURI ▪ KOTTAYAM ▪ KANNUR ▪ VILLUPURAM ▪ KOLLAM ▪ TADEPALLIGUDEM ▪ NAGAPATTINAM ▪ THRISSUR ▪ KALABURAGI

SIDDU LIKELY TO BE K'TAKA CM

High Command to make announcement today; DKS to reach Delhi this morning

DEVARAJ B HIREHALLI & PREETHA NAIR @ Bengaluru/New Delhi

AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge had his task cut out, as he aimed for a delicate balance within Congress' complex power play, when the Grand Old Party had to choose between Siddaramaiah and DK Shivakumar as the next chief minister | EXPRESS

THE impasse on deciding who the next Chief Minister of Karnataka would be is almost over. Sooner than later the name of former CM Siddaramaiah is likely to be announced on Tuesday.

Sources privy to the meeting in New Delhi at Kharge's residence said the likely winner for the CM's post is Siddaramaiah as he enjoys the backing of the majority of MLAs. The other contender for the top post was KPCC president DK Shivakumar, who skipped the Delhi visit on Monday citing 'poor health condition'.

Although both Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar were summoned to Delhi for discussions on taking a final decision on Karnataka CM, only the former reached the capital in the afternoon.

Shivakumar cancelling his Delhi trip on Monday has been interpreted in political circles as leaving the selection of CLP leader (and CM) solely to the discretion of the party high command and he is ready to accept whatever decision is taken. However, that announcement will not be made unless Shivakumar, as KPCC chief, is not consulted in person, a party functionary said.

Shivakumar told reporters in Bengaluru on Monday, "I have a health issue. The doctor has advised me to take rest as I am suffering from a stomach ache."

Renowned Bengaluru-based doctor NK Bhagavan, who checked Shivakumar's health parameters, found the latter's blood pressure to have gone up and advised him to take rest, the KPCC chief's aide informed *TNIE*.

Siddaramaiah had the strong backing of former AICC president Rahul Gandhi and AICC general secretary KC Venugopal. He appeared confident of clinching the top post, besides claiming that a maximum number of Congress MLAs are on his side.

But Shivakumar said, "I individually may not have a large number of MLAs, but 135 MLAs in the party is my number. When I was elected KPCC president, I promised Sonia Gandhi, Rahul Gandhi and Mallikarjun Kharge of bringing Congress to power in the state. I have fulfilled my promise. I shouldered the responsibility and worked bravely as they have encouraged me. I will leave this issue (decision on CM's post) to them." P6

OBSERVERS' REPORT

The three central observers, who interacted with party MLAs on their choice for the CM after the Congress Legislature Party meeting on Sunday, briefed party chief Mallikarjun Kharge and submitted their report

CM Aspirants

SIDDARAMAIAH

STRENGTHS
- Completed a full five-year term as CM from 2013-2018
- Vast administrative experience, including presenting 13 budgets
- Mass appeal across the state
- Enjoys considerable support from minorities, backward classes, and Dalits

WEAKNESSES
- Congress lost elections under his leadership in 2018
- Congress did not perform well in 2014, as well as the 2019 LS elections
- Still considered an outsider by a section of loyal Congress workers.
- Age factor as he is 75

V/S

DK SHIVAKUMAR

STRENGTHS
- Organisational capabilities
- 'Never give up' attitude and considered party's trouble-shooter
- Loyal to the party's high command
- Enjoys support from the Vokkaliga community

WEAKNESSES
- Lacks pan-Karnataka appeal
- Many pending cases being investigated by central agencies
- Jail term in Tihar
- Lacks backing from other communities

Intriguing battle: Afghan embassy in Delhi vs Taliban

YESHI SELI @ New Delhi

A queer tug-of-war is going on in the Afghan Embassy here. India hasn't officially recognised the Taliban-led government in Afghanistan but has an embassy that is functioning in Kabul — barring the consular service. On the other hand, in India, the Afghanistan mission has an ambassador appointed by the previous regime — **Farid Mamundzay**, who is popular among the Afghans in India, but the Taliban government has levelled corruption charges against him and its trade counsellor Qadir Shah has staked claim to his position.

It is learnt that the Taliban-led govt has written close to 15 times to dismiss diplomats in Delhi, including Mamundzay. While the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) refrained from commenting, Mamundzay dismissed trade counsellor's claims that he had been appointed as Charge de Affaires. Shah had apparently sent a note to MEA on April 28 saying that on April 25 the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan had appointed him as the counsellor of the embassy. Mamundzay on Monday dismissed suggestions of change in leadership. "There is no change of leadership in the Afghan embassy in India. The embassy categorically rejects the claims from an individual claiming to have taken charge of the mission," said Mamundzay. He also said that the person has been spreading misinformation and running a baseless campaign against mission officials.

IT REFUND SCAM: CYBER COPS NAB ENGINEERING GRAD

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

SLEUTHS of Cyber Crime Division of CID, Bengaluru, have arrested a 32-year-old engineering graduate for accessing sensitive information from some government websites and siphoning off huge sums of money.

The accused reportedly exploited the loopholes in the Income Tax Department's software and siphoned off huge sums of IT refunds through impersonation. The accused, identified as Dilip Raje Gowda of Hirisave village in Hassan district, was arrested in Dharwad.

Raje Gowda also hacked the Kaveri online portal of the state government, which deals with property registration, and made some transactions.

Apart from Karnataka, the accused has cases registered against him in Maharashtra, Goa and Telangana. He was reportedly involved in many vehicle loan fraud cases, where he cheated a finance company of huge sums of money.

The Cyber Crime Division acted after receiving a complaint from an IT assessee that some unknown person had gained access to his PAN account and later hacked the income tax filing portal to alter his IT returns to get refunds. The cyber crime police have registered a case against the accused under various sections of the Information Technology (IT) Act and Indian Penal Code.

"The accused altered details of bank accounts to which the Income Tax Department made refunds. Fake and fabricated KYC documents were used to open bank accounts in the names of the victims. In the present case, the accused was successful in manipulating the IT returns and got a refund of Rs 1.41 crore credited to his bank account," according to a press release.

The accused was involved in six more cases, where he siphoned off Rs 3.6 crore. Raje Gowda is now in police custody for further investigation. Digital and other evidence related to the case have been seized from him, the release stated.

Double-Decker jumps off track, no casualty

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

PASSENGERS of Bengaluru-bound Double-Decker Express from Chennai had a providential escape when the train derailed near Bisanattam station, 20 km from Bangarpet, on Monday morning. No casualty or injury was reported.

In all, 1,305 people were on board the train that left Dr MGR Chennai Central station for Bengaluru.

An alert train manager (guard) and a loco pilot averted a major tragedy.

It is learnt that the derailment happened due to lack of coordination between various departments of Bengaluru Railway Division.

Train No 22625, which left Kuppam station, was proceeding towards Bangarpet when the four wheels of C1, the last of 12 coaches in the rear with 122 passengers, jumped off the track.

"Hearing the rattle, the train manager immediately applied the handbrakes. He alerted the loco pilot too, who applied emergency brakes. The train screeched to a halt 200 metres away from the spot," said a source.

Senior railway officials rushed to the spot with a relief train. The passengers of C1 were asked to board other coaches. Coach C1 was detached from the train which left for Bangarpet an hour later.

Sources told *The New Indian Express* that lack of communication between the signalling and telecommunication-cum-engineering departments and the operations department could have caused the derailment.

"Maintenance work was taken up on this section on Sunday afternoon and it continued Monday. In such instances, a restriction on speed limits had to be imposed. The train was proceeding at its usual speed and this led to the accident," a source said.

"The cause of the accident will be investigated by the railway enquiry committee," said Aneesh Hegde, Chief Public Relations Officer, South Western Railway.

Meanwhile, the track was declared fit for operation at 5 pm on Monday. P5

The Bengaluru-bound Double-Decker Express that derailed near Bangarpet

EXPRESS READ

Not probing Adani since 2016, SEBI tells SC

New Delhi: The SEBI told the apex court that it was not investigating the Adani group since 2016 and termed such claims 'factually baseless'. The probe mentioned in its earlier affidavit pertained to issuance of GDRs by 51 Indian firms and no listed company of Adani group was among them.

At least six dead as cyclone batters Myanmar

Dhaka: Rescuers on Monday evacuated about 1,000 people trapped by seawater 12-ft deep along western Myanmar's coast after a powerful cyclone injured hundreds and cut off communications. Six deaths were reported, but the true impact is yet to be clear.

REFRESHING DROPS

Children cool themselves under water taps on a hot summer afternoon on the outskirts of Jammu on Monday | PTI

MANIPUR TRIBAL MLAs SEEK SEPARATE ADMINISTRATION

SHAHID FARIDI @ New Delhi

THE Manipur situation took a serious political turn on Monday with 10 tribal MLAs, including two ministers of the Biren Singh government, meeting Union home minister Amit Shah in New Delhi and demanding a separate machinery for the administration of the state's tribal areas.

The MLAs gave a signed memorandum to the home minister, in which they said: "The atrocities committed against the ethnic Kuki-Chin-Mizo-Zomi-Hmar minority community has left everyone aghast. That Manipur is now partitioned is a ground reality. Huge population transfers between the valley and hills inhabited by the Kuki-Chin-Mizo-Zomi-Hmar have taken place. There are no tribals left in Imphal valley. There are no Meiteis left in the hills... There is a clear-cut partition of the state between tribal/Kuki hills and the Meitei valley. Our people have lost faith in the government and can no longer imagine resettling in the valley where their lives are no longer safe... The need is the formalisation of the separation through setting up a separate administration for the hills inhabited by our people."

Sources said Shah asked them to work towards return of normalcy in the state. He also assured them that he would look into the issues raised by them.

The 10 MLAs are: Haokholet Kipgen, Ngursanglur Sanate, Kimneo Haokip Hangshing, Letpao Haokip, L M Khaute, Letzamang Haokip, Chinlunthang, Paolienlal Haokip, Nemcha Kipgen and Vungzagin Valte.

7 BJP MLAs in the list

Seven of the 10 MLAs who have signed the memorandum belong to the BJP, two are from the Kuki People's Alliance and one independent

CONNECTIVITY

Rail network to LoC with new Uri line

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

THE Northern Railways is considering to connect Uri, a border town on the Line of Control (LoC) in the north Kashmir, with the rest of the region.

The Northern Railways has floated a tender for engineering survey work of the Railway line/roadway using modern survey techniques like Aerial Survey (Aerial Photogrammetric survey or Aerial LIDAR) and DGPS (Differential Global Positioning System) levelling and creation of DEM. The Final Location Survey (FLS) for a 50-km new line between Baramulla to the border town of Uri is expected to be completed in three months. Chief Area Manager (CAM) Kashmir Railways, Saqib Yousuf said after the survey is complete and depending on the feasibility it will be decided up to which area of Uri the rail link will be extended.

FREE FOR ALL

'Cong has come to power, won't pay power bills'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Chitradurga

EVEN before the Congress party forming government in Karnataka and implementing its guarantees, people of Jalikatte village in Chitradurga district have warned their Bescom meter reader not to visit their homes to take meter reading as they will not pay their electricity bills henceforth.

Citing Congress' guarantee of providing 200 units of free electricity to people, they told the meter reader that "now the party has come to power and we are not going to pay our electricity bills."

Though the meter reader tried to convince them that they have to pay their bills till the government issues an order in this regard, people of Jalikatte village were in no mood to listen to him and sent him back.

A video of the Bescom meter reader being taken to task by the villagers has gone viral.

Congress announced 200 units of free power as its first guarantee in Belagavi when it started "Janashirvada Yatra".

Further, KPCC president DK Shivakumar promised the people that they need not pay electricity bills from June 1 if his party comes to power. Congress also promised that its guarantees will be approved at its first cabinet meeting for implementation.

ALMANAC TODAY
Tuesday: 16/05/2023 • Year: Shobhakruta • Ayana: Uttharayana • Ritu: Vasantha • Masa: Vaishakha • Paksha: Krishna • Tithi: Dwadasi 11.32 pm • Nakshatra: Uttharabhadra 8.34 am • Moon in Mesha Rashi • Rahukaala: 03:00 am to 04:30 am • Gulikakala: 12:00 pm to 01:30 pm • Yamaganda: 09:00 am to 10:30 am

WEATHER
MIN 22°C | MAX 32°C
FORECAST Overcast

Sunrise 5.54 am
Sunset 6.38 pm
Moonrise 3.18 am
Moonset 3.46 pm

WILL FIGHT INJUSTICE METED OUT TO SOWMYA: DAD

Ramalinga Reddy claims conspiracy behind daughter's defeat in polls

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

REACTING to his daughter **Sowmya Reddy**'s defeat by a mere 16 votes in the recently concluded Karnataka Assembly polls, BTM Layout Congress MLA and former minister Ramalinga Reddy on Monday said that the "injustice meted out to her" would be challenged.

"We will fight against the injustice meted out to former MLA Sowmya Reddy," said Ramalinga Reddy, who is also the KPCC working president.

He stated that injustice had been meted out to Sowmya, the Congress candidate from Jayanagar, and added that the party will fight this legally. "We are surprised that the 250 votes which were considered invalid by the returning officer were later, as an afterthought, included in the counting process due to some unseen pressure," he claimed, adding that such votes once marked as invalid cannot be included in the counting process.

Ramalinga Reddy further alleged that there was influence of some UP politician, and former minister R Ashoka and Bengaluru South MP Tejasvi Surya. Reddy alleged that the observer was sitting inside the returning officers' chamber and alleged that Surya and Ashoka, who were present, were neither agents of the candidate nor candidates themselves. He went on to add that a person from UP had used his influence to do this.

Sowmya told *TNIE* that she will fight against this "grave injustice" done to her. According to the official Election Commission website, she was ahead in the last round by about 160 votes.

Corporators no match for sitting MLAs, only one makes it to Soudha

CK Ramamurthy

> We are surprised that the 250 votes which were considered invalid by the returning officer were... included in the counting process
>
> Ramalinga Reddy, Congress MLA

MOHAMMED YACOOB @ Bengaluru

THE Karnataka legislative assembly results show that out of seven former Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) corporators who contested the assembly elections, only one won.

Former corporators Umesh Shetty, Anand Kumar, Shivakumar, R Chandra, Keshav Murthy and Ravindra lost by small margins. CK Ramamurthy, BJP candidate from Jayanagar, defeated Congress's Sowmya Reddy by 16 votes.

Ramamurthy told The New Indian Express that he planned to contest the 2018 byelections after sitting MLA BN Vijay Kumar died, but the party gave the ticket to Vijay Kumar's brother Prahalad, who lost to Sowmya Reddy.

"This time, I got the ticket and worked hard. During recounting of votes, I managed a lead of 16 votes and am Jayanagar MLA now," he said.

Umesh Shetty, who represented Nagarbhavi ward, prepared to contest against M Krishnappa from Vijayanagar, but the party sent him to Govindarajnagar, after sitting MLA and minister V Somanna moved out to contest from Varuna and Chamarajanagar. Interestingly, Somanna was earlier a corporator. Shetty lost to Congress rival Priya Krishna by over 12,000 votes.

Similarly, H Ravindra, former corporator of Hosahalli, in Vijayanagar, tried his luck for the second time from Vijayanagar assembly seat, and was defeated by over 8,000 votes.

S Anand Kumar, former chairman, BBMP Health Committee, lost to BJP's S Raghu by 16,000 votes in CV Raman Nagar. It was said that Anand managed to get crowd funding during the campaign, and united many leaders. However, he could not "take care" of slum voters of Anandapuram and Sudhamanagar. Raghu was also a corporator once.

Like Anand Kumar, Shivakumar, former BBMP member from Shanthala Nagar ward, contested against sitting MLA NA Haris from Shanthinagar, and lost by 7,000 votes.

Former Ramaswamy Palya corporator N Chandra contested from Shivajinagar, but his alleged criminal background did not go down well with voters, and Rizwan Arshad defeated him by 20,000 votes.

In Mahalakshmi Layout, former corporator Keshav Murthy contested against K Gopalaiah and failed. Gopalaiah was also a corporator once.

A gardener prunes a hedge in front of the Vidhana Soudha on Monday | EXPRESS

INFRA WATCH

Bengaluru needs new mobility plan: Experts

AKNISREE KARTHIK @ Bengaluru

WITH the next chief minister due to take charge soon, experts list out issues related to traffic and mobility bothering Namma Bengaluru, that need immediate attention. Once the new government is formed, they insist that the transport infrastructure projects promised in the manifesto are vetted by Bangalore Metropolitan Land Transport Authority (BMLTA). No transport infrastructure projects should be executed unless an unbiased alternative analysis is carried out to choose the best as well as well as a cost-effective option, they suggest.

Mobility expert from the Indian Institute of Science (IISC) Ashish Verma shared his expectations from the new Karnataka government. "One of the first things the new government should do is to make BMLTA fully functional, involving mobility experts with relevant academic background, experience and expertise. They should ensure that all transport infrastructure projects, promised in the election manifesto, are first vetted by BMLTA scientifically for their feasibility and effectiveness, longevity and sustainability."

He stressed that no transport infrastructure project should be executed unless an unbiased alternative analysis is carried out to choose the best as well as a cost-effective option. He pointed out that in the past, it has been seen that governments tend to bypass this important step and directly prepare DPR of projects.

Verma said that with considerable changes in land use and travel pattern observed post-Covid in Bengaluru, the government should initiate a fresh joint Comprehensive Mobility Plan (CMP) and Master Plan exercise through BMLTA.

Shaheen Shasha of Bengaluru Bus Prayanikara Vedike, a bus commuters group, urged the government to place priority on improved public transport, by increasing the BMTC fleet, setting up bus priority lanes and reducing traffic. She insisted that the Congress government should not build 'signal-free' corridors across the city and tunnel roads in Central Business District, as announced in their election manifesto, as these projects do not solve the issue of traffic and have been opposed.

"The BMLTA bill passed by the previous BJP government has issues with how it's conceived and constituted. We hope the new government will fix these issues through appropriate amendments and make BMLTA functional. More importantly, there is an urgent need to revisit the city planning processes and practices," she said.

Alstom collaborates with IIM-B to push entrepreneurship

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

FRENCH railway solutions major Alstom has collaborated with the Indian Institute of Management-Bangalore (IIM-B) to help encourage entrepreneurs in the country.

As part of Alstom India's Sustainability Incubation Programme, the company awarded a grant of Rs 1.5 crore to 10 startups being incubated under IIM-B's NS Raghavan Centre for Entrepreneurial Learning (NSRCEL), particularly those involved in solving problems in the clean energy and shared mobility sectors.

"While we are bringing our vision of sustainable mobility to life through our business, we have also committed to make active social investments to nurture startups who share our vision. On that note, it is heartening to see incredible work done by the selected startups and it has been a delight to partner with NSRCEL-IIMB," said Alstom India Managing Director Olivier Loison.

NSRCEL COO Anand Sri Ganesh said while several of the intricacies of the climate and sustainability sectors are weakly defined, the crisis of climate change is on-going.

Climate crisis

"The climate and sustainability spaces are still emerging. Knowledge networks, business models, funding, policy environment – all of these are still weakly defined. Yet we are staring at a crisis in climate change. At NSRCEL, we are committed to injecting innovation to solve these priorities at scale, through the lens of entrepreneurship," he said.

Of the over-200 applications, 10 startups have been selected to be awarded the grant. These include ones that is working on electric vehicles (EV), charging platforms, drone-based service providers and clean energy solutions. The startups awarded the grant are - MetroRide, Evoride Motors, Volar Alta C/o Drone Tech Solutions, Epick Bikes, ChargeEZ, the Energy Company, Green Tiger Mobility, TrackNerd GPS, Tadpole Projects and Swytchd.

Canara Bank slashes interest rate

BENGALURU: Public sector lender Canara Bank on Monday announced that it is slashing the rate of interest on home loans and vehicle loans for its customers. According to an official release, Canara Bank is offering home loan interest rate from 8.55 per cent and vehicle loan interest rate from 8.80 per cent. It is also providing benefit of 100 per cent documentation charges waiver and concession in processing charges to all customers, irrespective of the loan amount, the public sector bank added in its release.

EXPRESS READ

Dr P Shyama Raju, Chancellor of REVA University, receives the Most Promising University Award at the Commonwealth Education Innovation Conference in Oxford, the UK.

REVA gets Most Promising University Award

BENGALURU: REVA University received the Most Promising University Award at the Commonwealth Education Innovation Conference on May 9, held in the UK. "India's higher education sector has moved beyond earlier defined realms of education in the last three decades. Post-independence there has been a rapid growth in the higher education sector and the last three decades have witnessed perhaps the rapid growth of the sector, thanks to technology and global exposure," said Pro Chancellor Umesh Raju, speaking at a panel at the convention.

BBMP to plant 1 lakh saplings, experts bat for iron guards

PURAN CHOUDHARY @ Bengaluru

WITH the rainy days approaching, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) forest cell is planning to plant one lakh saplings across the city for which they have roped in 22 contractors.

Environmentalists have recommended that BMMP use iron guards instead of bamboo which curtails the survival rate of the saplings because either cattle eat them or are destroyed by citizens.

Sareena Sikkaligar, Deputy Conservator of Forests (DCP), BBMP, said contractors will be billed in the third year after assessing the survival rate of the saplings.

On Environment Day or some occasion, NGOs take saplings from the department and plant them, but they are not accountable for it and the BBMP is blamed for being unable to maintain the saplings, she said.

DT Devare, tree activist, Bangalore Environment Trust, said contractors do not protect the saplings with tree guards. "Iron guards need to be placed around the saplings to increase their survival rate," he said, and suggested that BBMP should make the tree pits before the onset of monsoon to reduce pollution.

Activists also said that native species should be planted as it will help preserve the species and increase green cover.

Vijay Nishanth, Bengaluru's tree doctor, said, "To save the city's green cover, a partnership is needed between the public and BBMP," adding that the city needs an annual tree census for the civic body and NGOs to come up with plans for the city's sustainable growth.

BBMP budget for 2023-24 has allocated Rs 4 crore for the tree survey and Rs 7.5 crore to increase the number of trees, along with Rs 14 crore for tree canopy management.

Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

16TH May: The coming Sun-Neptune pattern is an excellent sign, if a little vague. In one of my old books I read that 'very many writers and artists have this combination and there are also many followers of the way of mysticism, as well as philanthropists and humanitarians'. It adds that 'horses are particularly liked'!

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)
It's better by far to face the fact that you may have been misled. Once you have worked out who has done what and why, you will be able to do something about it. Do give relations the benefit of the doubt, by the way. You never know - you might even receive an apology.

TAURUS (Apr. 21 - May 21)
You should be aware that when the planetary brakes are applied, it could be for very good reasons. It may well prevent you from making hasty decisions now, especially as far as work is concerned, including partners' work. Press ahead at home and do whatever pleases you.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
The road you're on is a long one, and there really is no knowing how far you can travel and what you will encounter on the way. The one splendid indication in your chart, though, connects love with short journeys. Travel in the pursuit of your heart's desire, perhaps?

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
The time has come to build bridges and re-establish links with those who have made life difficult. You may be seized with new energy at home, not to mention fresh enthusiasm for making constructive improvements and alterations. As you know, a positive attitude breeds success.

LEO (July 24 - Aug. 23)
There are always balancing factors in any situation. What is hopeful from the long-term point of view now is that even if you have squandered an opportunity, sooner or later someone else will make it up for you. You can get the ball rolling, so don't hang around.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)
Get up to date at work. Professional ambitions are one thing, but you should also pursue any worthwhile aims and goals which will enhance your general standing in the community. Just watch out for a spot of cosmic friction around mid-morning, or mid-afternoon.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)
Don't force others to divulge what they are not at liberty to reveal. You'd probably do best to let them have their say in their own good time. There is a lot to be said for taking expert advice, perhaps even concerning a legal affair. Money matters are now set to improve.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)
All the painful lessons of the past will now prove to have been worth it. Certain emotional stresses and strains will eventually ease as the Moon passes from a dry and dusty part of your chart to a soft and sensitive one. The results should be to your liking.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)
You may consider what is best for all in the long run and, in so doing, discover that principles are more important than people. Loyalty to friends or associates who do not deserve it may not help the situation. The alternative is to offer honest and constructive criticism.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)
It's a positive moment, so grasp the initiative. What takes place today may make it clear that you should be on the move. However, only when current problems have been dealt with will associates stop pressurising you. You've got to get your act together first, though.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)
Having decided to alter your life so that someone close doesn't feel neglected, there is now no way back. As you will soon come to realise, promises cannot be made and unmade on a whim. Actually, what this period is really about is combining responsibility to others with your own freedom of movement.

PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar 20)
The time is fast approaching when you must force others to honour their commitments and pay their emotional dues. All entrepreneurs should be pleased to hear that they are now in an aggressive financial phase. If you negotiate long and hard then you might strike an excellent deal.

Solutions to Yesterday's puzzle

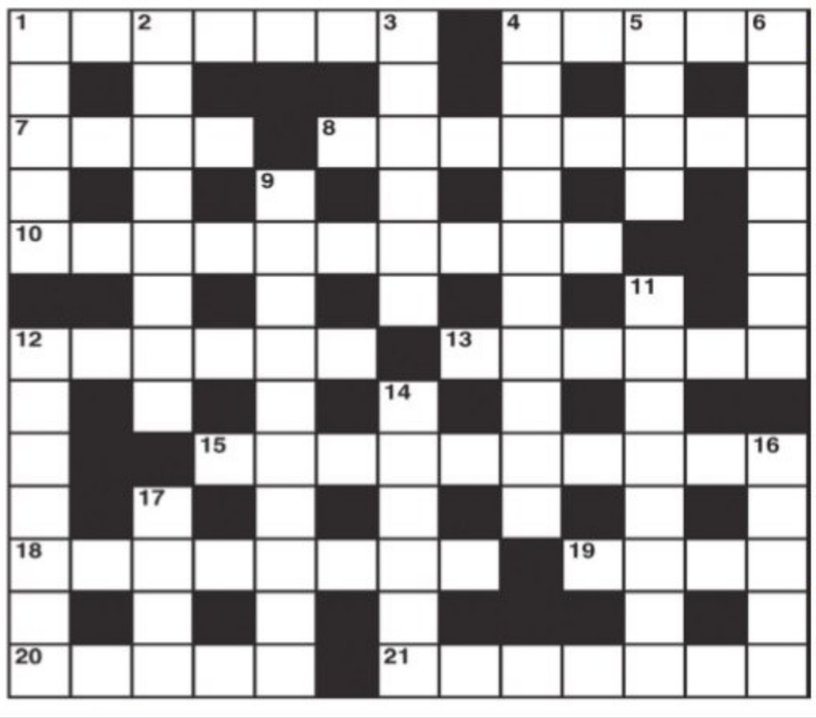
			9	4		6		
2						8		
	8	3			2			7
							5	4
			6	2	9			
3	7							
8			2			7	9	
		2						3
		4		3	1			

1	9	2	4	6	5	7	3	8
5	7	3	9	2	8	4	1	6
6	8	4	7	1	3	2	9	5
2	3	1	5	8	4	9	6	7
8	4	7	3	9	6	1	5	2
9	6	5	2	7	1	3	8	4
7	2	6	1	5	9	8	4	3
3	5	9	8	4	7	6	2	1
4	1	8	6	3	2	5	7	9

SUDOKU EVIL

TEST YOUR NUMBER CRUNCHING SKILL WITH OUR UNIQUE PUZZLE

Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.



CROSS WORD

ACROSS
1 Deny order was void (7)
4 Silly girl that is going out (5)
7 Carve a large slice of meat (4)
8 Learn lines for speaking (8)
10 Disreputable press cited for contempt (10)
12 Church councils saying wickedness has the advantage? (6)
13 Bloomers are old-fashioned wear (6)
15 Not working is quite irregular (3,2,5)
18 Break one's nose perhaps (8)
19 Bank gives free change (4)
20 Stray around in the woods perhaps (5)
21 He may be prepared to sell his land (7)

DOWN
1 Boy of six immersed in pop (5)
2 Silent film star giving first or last performance (4,4)
3 Shouts of joy of one who's taking in work (6)
4 Calling upon one in employment (10)
5 Bill received in connection with port (4)
6 They are raised up for anyone to see (7)
9 Recruitment agent seeking school principal? (10)
11 Dictates one way to prove gold genuine (4,4)
12 Writers have a small room with a key on board (7)
14 Second in importance (6)
16 Allude to a freer translation (5)
17 Clip round the ear - or waist (4)

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Ward of court, 9 Evening, 10 Elgar, 11 Seth, 12 Reaction, 14 Sector, 16 Ragged, 18 Esoteric, 19 Bali, 22 Conga, 23 Passage, 24 Adventuress.

Down: 2 Alert, 3 Drip, 4 Fogies, 5 Overcoat, 6 Rigging, 7 Persistence, 8 Crane driver, 13 Home-made, 15 Crowned, 17 Tin-pot, 20 Amass, 21 User.

JUMBLE

UNSCRAMBLE THESE JUMBLES, ONE LETTER TO EACH SQUARE, TO FORM FOUR ORDINARY WORDS.

BY DAVID L. HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

TDHIC

SFYIH

NRCYAA

KAEWAN

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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: _____ _____

(Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumbles: ELDER SNORT ENGAGE HAGGLE
Answer: Even during a drought, the golf course's sprinkler system could keep the — GREENS GREEN

23 buffaloes hit by train, killed

Twenty-three buffaloes were killed after a goods train hit the herd near Angaragundi in Jokatte on the outskirts of Mangaluru on Sunday night. The goods train was heading to Mangalore Chemicals and Fertilizers (MCF) from Kankanady station

LACK OF COORDINATION LED TO DERAILMENT

Speeding Double Decker Express went off tracks, Operations team had not placed speed restriction

S LALITHA @ Bengaluru

THE mishap involving the MGR Chennai Central-KSR Bengaluru Double Decker Express was completely avoidable, say those familiar with the incident. A communication gap between the departments which carried out work on the tracks and controlled train operations, allegedly caused the damage.

A reliable source said that work related to maintenance of Points (the equipment on railway tracks operated to control the direction of train) was being carried out by the signalling and telecommunications, as well as engineering departments.

"They began work on Sunday afternoon and it was to have been completed by the end of the day. When such work is on, they alert the punctuality section of the Operations department, and impose speed restrictions. Personnel from Operations alerts the locopilot on the speed to be maintained, which was done on Sunday," he explained.

However, it appears that work spilled over into Monday. "Those involved did not alert the Operations personnel, so no cautionary speed was imposed. The Double Decker is among the few trains which runs at high speed, hence it suffered a derailment when it crossed the tracks," he added. Trains running prior to it did not face any issues.

Passengers walk on the tracks with their luggage to board the unaffected coaches

One version said the Double Decker ran at 110 kmph, while another version said its speed was only around 70 kmph, as it had departed from Kuppam in Andhra Pradesh just some time ago.

None of the top railway officials gave any inputs on the possible reasons for the accident.

PASSENGERS TRAVEL ON COACH FLOOR

Among the passengers on board the derailed MGR Chennai Central-KSR Bengaluru Double Decker Express train was N Vignesh, a freelance photographer, in coach C3. He told *The New Indian Express*, "I felt minor turbulence and my compartment was shaking violently before the train came to a halt around 11.30am. Passengers were walking into our compartment with luggage in hand. A family which had travelled in the derailed coach said they heard a huge noise," he said. He added that Railway officials handed the situation well.

Sneha Radhakrishnan, a finance professional travelling from Chennai to KR Puram in coach C2 told The New Indian Express, "I experienced a big jolt. This was followed by braking twice. The train stopped and many passengers came into our compartment. Some of them had to squeeze in wherever there was space and many squatted on the floor, when the train left an hour later towards Bangarpet. A few elderly citizens appeared a bit panicky and shaken. One of them said the window glass was damaged."

They began work on Sunday noon and it was to have been completed by the end of the day. When such work is on, they alert punctuality section of the Operations department, and impose speed restrictions. Personnel from Operations alerts the locopilot on the speed to be maintained, which was done on Sunday

Source

I felt minor turbulence and my compartment was shaking violently before the train came to a halt around 11.30am. Passengers were walking into our compartment with luggage in hand. A family which had travelled in the derailed coach said they heard a huge noise

N Vignesh, passenger

Varthur Lake is an important waterbody in east Bengaluru | EXPRESS

Finally, Varthur Lake set to be silt-free in 2 days

MOHAMMED YACOOB @ Bengaluru

MUCH to the cheer of lake warriors, Varthur Lake is being readied to hold rainwater during monsoon as 95 per cent of silt is cleared, and officials state that in two days, the water body will be free of Silt.

According to BDA officials, so far 52 per cent of the silt from Bellandur Lake has been removed. Once the silt from Varthur Lake is cleared, more emphasis can be laid on Bellandur lake.

Assistant Executive Engineer, BDA Bellandur and Varthur Lake Rejuvenation, SS Aravind, said, "95.59 per cent of silt from Varthur Lake was removed and was transported to farms. Each truckload was GPS-monitored to avoid any discrepancies. Once this work is done in a day or two, the silt-removal work from Bellandur Lake will be hastened. Last year, due to rain and protests from villages at the Vittasandra quarry pit, silt-removal took a hit. Now that the issue is resolved, we will remove more quantity of the accumulated silt before monsoon. So far in Bellandur, 52.22 per cent of the silt has been cleared."

The engineer said, unlike the silt at Varthur Lake, the silt at Bellandur Lake is unfit to be used in farming, and hence, it was decided that it be dumped in the Mylasandra and Vittasandra quarry pits. As the roads were not in good condition last year, villagers protested and stopped heavy trucks from entering the stretch, and hence, there was less progress, said the engineer.

Lake activist and member of Varthur Rising, Jagadish Reddy, said he is happy with the progress of silt clearance at Varthur Lake. However, he also expects the authorities to speed up Sewage Treatment Plant work, garbage dumping and stop raw sewage from entering Raja Kaluves. He credited the development to effective monitoring from the Citizen Monitoring Committee.

"The diversion channel is near the lake and once STP work is complete, the diversion channel has to be removed. The channel often receives sewage and garbage. In case of heavy rain, the channel breaches, and the efforts will go waste both at Varthur and Bellandur," he said.

EXPRESS READ

Dr BR Ambedkar statue vandalised

BENGALURU: Tension gripped Yanagunte in Bengaluru rural after miscreants vandalised a statue of Dr BR Ambedkar on Sunday night. In protest, the residents blocked the road and set the road on fire. The accused set the statue on fire by pouring kerosene. The villagers urged the police to arrest the accused. The jurisdictional Sulibele police have registered a case. The residents withdrew the protest after DySP of the Hoskote sub-divison pacified them by assuring them of arresting the accused. **ENS**

Elephant attacks labourer in Kodagu

MADIKERI: An estate labourer was seriously injured after he was attacked by a wild elephant on Sunday night in Karekkad of Hosur village near Ammathi. Mada, a labourer working in the estate of B Vasanthi Achaiah of Hosur village, was returning with his wife after shopping when the elephant attacked him. He suffered injuries on his head, abdomen and legs. He was shifted to a hospital in Mysuru for treatment. Fortunately, Mada's wife escaped without any injuries. **ENS**

Food delivery agent stabbed near E-City

PRAVEEN KUMAR @ Bengaluru

A 29-year-old food delivery agent from Assam is undergoing treatment in a hospital after he was stabbed by three unidentified persons in the guise of customers at Pragathipura in Electronics City police station limits at 10 pm on Friday. The victim has been identified as Noyon Mia, a resident of Pragathinagar.

Mia went to deliver food which the accused had ordered. After the trio refused to pay for the food, the victim asked them to settle the money or it would be deducted from his salary. When he tried to take away the food from them, the accused stabbed him. The victim then called his roommates for help. Mia approached the police on Saturday.

"The accused had to pay Rs 560 in cash for the biryani they had ordered. They refused to give the money after collecting the order. When the victim insisted, the accused initially beat him. When he forced them to pay, one of the accused pulled out a knife and stabbed to the left side chest and escaped," stated the victim in his complaint to the police.

"The accused are still at large. We are checking CCTV camera footage in the vicinity. The victim is out of danger. The contact details from which the food was ordered is also being checked," said the police.

The Electronics City police have registered a case and are further investigating.

Regional Office Bengaluru (South)
No. 41/2, 5th Floor, Vijaya Towers, M.G. Road, Bengaluru – 560001

REQUIREMENT OF PREMISES ON LEASE/RENTAL BASIS

Bank of Baroda invites proposals/offers from the owners having clear and marketable titles over land and built-up property with the carpet area of 2430 sq.ft on ground/First floor for housing **Jayanagar 5th Block Branch (ALPHA-DBJAYA) at Jayanagar 5th Block** with all facilities including adequate power supply. Offer should be valid for a minimum period of 120 days from the date of opening of the tender. The intending offerer shall submit their offers in two separate sealed covers superscribed as "Technical bid" and "Financial bid" to the following address: The Zonal Head, Bank of Baroda, 2nd floor, Zonal Office, Vijaya Towers, Trinity Circle, MG Road, Bengaluru-560001 on or before 02.06.2023 by 15.00hrs. For details, please login on Tender section of our website (http://www.bankofbaroda.com).

Date: 15.05.2023 **Sd/- Regional Manager,**
Place: Bengaluru **Bank of Baroda, Bengaluru South Region**

DEMAND NOTICE

Under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation And Reconstruction of Financial Assets And Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (the said Act.) read with Rule 3(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (the said Rules). In exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(2) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the said Rules, the Authorised Officer of IIFL Home Finance Ltd. (IIFL HFL) (Formerly known as India Infoline Housing Finance Ltd.) has issued Demand Notice under section 13(2) of the said Act, calling upon the Borrower(s), to repay the amount mentioned in the respective Demand Notice(s) issued to them. In connection with above, notice is hereby given, to the Borrower(s) to pay within 60 days from the publication of this notice, the amounts indicated herein below, together with further interest from the date(s) of Demand Notice till the date of payment. The detail of the Borrower(s), amount due as on date of Demand Notice and security offered towards repayment of loan amount are as under:-

Name of the Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)	Demand Notice Date & Amount	Description of Secured asset (immovable property)
Mr. Magesh Kumar Deva Sagayam Mrs. Usha Krishnan **(Prospect No IL10092022)**	**11-May-2023 is ₹ 26,52,297.00/-** (Rupees Twenty Six Lakh Fifty Two Thousand Two Hundred Ninety Seven Only)	All that piece and parcel of the property being : Property Bearing No. B-1634, PID No-69-56-1634, B Type, Land Area Ad Measuring 457 Sq. Ft., Carpet Area Ad Measuring 720 Sq. Ft., and Built Up Area Ad Measuring 800 Sq. Ft., 3rd Stage Austin Town, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560047. Bounded By : North : Pathway South : Conservancy West : House no.1635 East : House no.1633

If the said Borrower fail to make payment to IIFL HFL as aforesaid, IIFL HFL may proceed against the above secured assets under Section 13(4) of the said Act, and the applicable Rules, entirely at the risks, costs and consequences of the Borrowers. For further details please contact to Authorised Officer at Branch Office : "ADAM CHAMBERS," #11, Richmond Road, Bengaluru - 560025 or Corporate Office : IIFL Tower, Plot No. 98, Udyog Vihar, Ph-IV Gurgaon, Haryana.

Place : Bangalore, Date : 16/05/2023 **Sd/- Authorised Officer, For IIFL Home Finance Ltd.**

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN:U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No: EEE/MWD/SD1/23-24/743 Date: 15.05.2022

NOTIFICATION

The Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited have formulated a scheme under section 67 of the Electricity supply Act 2003 and the same is herewith published in pursuance of section 67(2)(c) of the said act for information to the public. Particulars of the scheme are as follows.

1. **Approximate project cost: 5844.31 Lakhs**
2. **Name of the work:** Establishing of 2x100 MVA, 220/110kV & 1x10MVA, 110/11KV substation at Nadamanchale in Sagara Taluk, Shivamogga District with allied 220KV line on PTK Basis including supply of all material/equipments (excluding supply of 10MVA, 110/11KV Power Transformer and 11KV switchgear), Mandatory spares, Erection (including Civil works) of all materials/equipments, Testing & commissioning.
3. **Proposed 110KV Line passing through areas:-**

DISTRICT	TALUK	Hobli	Village	Survey No.
Shivamogga	Sagara	Kasaba	Nadamanchale	18

KPTCL shall have and exercise all powers which the telegraph authorities possess under part III of the Indian Telegraphs Act 1885 (13 of 1885) for implementation of the above said scheme. Any objections or discrepancies regarding the above schemes shall be sent to the office of Executive Engineer Ele., Major Works Division, KPTCL, Prasarana Bhavan, Shivamogga within 30 days from the date of publication of this notification for KPTCL's pursuance.

Sd/- Executive Engineer(Ele),
Major works Division, KPTCL, Prasarana Bhavan,
B.H. Road, Shivamogga-577203.

MAHARASHTRA METRO RAIL CORPORATION LTD.
(A joint venture of Govt. of India & Govt. of Maharashtra)
(Nagpur Metro Rail Project)
"Metro Bhavan", VIP Road, Near Dikshabhoomi, Ramdaspeth, Nagpur-440010. E-mail : md.nmrcl.tenders@gmail.com
Website : www.mahametro.org

Tender Notice No. N2-015/DDC-02/2023 Dt. 12.05.2023

Name of work : Detailed Design Consultancy Services for **(i)** 7 (Seven) Elevated Stations viz. Hingna Mountview, Rajiv Nagar, Wanadongri, APMC, Raipur, Hingna Bus Station and Hingna, excluding Viaduct in station portions on Reach-3A of NMRP Phase-II. **(ii)** 3 (Three) Elevated Stations viz. Pardi (Double Decker), Kapsi Khurd and Transport Nagar, excluding Viaduct in station portions on Reach-4A of NMRP Phase-II.

Cost of Documents : INR 23,600/- (inclusive of GST).

Interested Bidders may visit MAHA-METRO Website: **www.mahametro.org** and CPP Website : **https://eprocure.gov.in** for NIT and the bid documents can be download from e-tender portal **https://mahametrorail.etenders.in** from **16.00** Hrs on **19.05.2023 to 16.00** Hrs on **23.06.2023.**

Executive Director/Procurement
Maha-Metro, (Nagpur Metro)

Nagpur Metro : A Safe Journey

Bengaluru Zone,
Administration & Services Department,
No. 11, Bank of India Building, K.G Road, Bengaluru-560 009
Phone No. 080-2295 9419 /456
e mail : Bengaluru.AandS@bankofindia.co.in

PREMISES REQUIREMENT FOR SHIFTING OF OUR HANUMANTHNAGAR BRANCH ON LONG TERM LEASE / RENT

Bank of India proposes to Shift its **Hanumanthnagar branch in, Bengaluru Urban District, Karnataka State, Pin-560019.** Bank requires suitable premises with carpet **area of 1800sq.ft.**on long term lease / rent. For details interested parties may logon to our website - **www.bankofindia.co.in** (Tender Page). The last date for submission of offers is **05-06-2023.**

16.05.2023 **ZONAL MANAGER**

Dakshina Kannada Co-operative Milk Producer's Union Limited
Mangalore Dairy Premises, Kulshekar, Mangalore- 575 005

No:DKMU/ADMN/982/2023-24 Date: 12-05-2023

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER
(Through GOK e-Procurement Portal Only)

Dakshina Kannada Co-operative Milk Producer's Union, invites tender under two cover bid system through e-Procurement Portal directly from IRDA approved Public / Government Sector Insurance companies for providing Tailor Made Family Floater Group Mediclaim Insurance Policy to the employees and their dependent family, Member of Board and their dependent spouse and Retired employees and their dependent spouse. Tender documents may be downloaded from e-procurement **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in.**

Sl. No.	Description	No of Employees	No of Retired Employees	No of Board Member	EMD Amount
1.	Tailor Made Family Floater Group Mediclaim Insurance Policy for the period of one year from 06-06-2023 to 05-06-2024	288	98	17	1000=00

Last date for submission of Tender : 26-05-2023 4.00 p.m
Date of opening of Technical Tender : 29-05-2023 10.30 a.m

The Managing Director reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Further details contact help desk Phone 8046010000 OR 8068948777 e-mail to **support@eprochelpdesk.com.**

FOR DAKSHINA KANNADA MILK UNION
Sd/-
MANAGING DIRECTOR

GATI SHAKTI VISHWAVIDYALAYA
(A Central University under the Ministry of Railways, Government of India)
Lalbaug, Vadodara, Gujarat 390004

GSV/Acad/Admissions-2023 **15/05/2023**

ADMISSION NOTICE

Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya (GSV), Vadodara is a Central University, established through an Act of Parliament vide the Central Universities (Amendment) Act, 2022. The University is sponsored by the Ministry of Railways, Govt. of India. Being a university of first of–its–kind, GSV focuses on transport and logistics related education, multidisciplinary research, and training.

Applications are invited for admission to the following Academic Programmes across Technology and Management streams for the **AY 2023-24:**

Stream	Program	Entrance Exam	Last Date to Apply Online
Technology	**B.Tech.** in Civil Engineering (Specialization : Rail Engineering)	JEE (Main)	June 11, 2023 (Sunday)
	B.Tech. in Electronics and Communication Engineering (Specialization :Rail Engineering)		
	B.Tech. in Mechanical Engineering (Specialization: Rail Engineering)		
	B.Tech. in Electrical Engineering (Specialization : Rail Engineering)		
	B.Tech. in Artificial Intelligence and Data Science (Specialization: Transportation and Logistics)		
Management	**MBA** (Transport Economics and Management)	CUET-PG or CAT or MAT or XAT	June 25, 2023 (Sunday)
	MBA (Logistics and Supply Chain Management)		

Note: (i) For detailed information and application, please visit GSV Wesbsite- https://gsv.ac.in
(ii) For admission related query/information, Email to: admission2023@gsv.ac.in

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Only University in India exclusively focused on transport and logistics sectors
- Governed by an Executive Council consisting of eminent industry leaders, government officials and academicians working in synergy to address the sectorial challenges
- Multi-disciplinary programmes based on demand-driven curriculum addressing industry need
- Highly experiential and unique interdisciplinary pedagogical approach that incorporates the latest technologies
- High-quality faculty with global exposure
- Strong emphasis on Industry collaborations
- Focus on 21st century skills: communication, critical thinking and innovation
- Opportunity for project-based learning and well-structured internships at Indian Railway establishments and other Organizations
- State of the art railways facilities and lab infrastructure
- Residential hostel facilities available for all the UG students. Besides, efforts will be made to accommodate all the female PG students as well
- Financial aid (merit-cum-means) possibility up to 100% of tuition and 50% of hostel fee - only for the eligible students
- Participation of leading organisations/companies in campus placements

43

BJP leader KS Eshwarappa filed a police complaint after he received a missed call from Kazakhstan at around 12.30 am on Monday. Eshwarappa expressed concern that the missed call could be from terrorists. He met the Shivamogga Superintendent of Police on Monday and lodged the complaint

WHO'LL BE THE NEXT CM?

EYEING 2024 LS POLLS, CONGRESS WEIGHS ITS OPTIONS CAREFULLY

RAMU PATIL @ Bengaluru

While Siddaramaiah reached Delhi on Monday afternoon to meet the top brass, DK Shivakumar is now set to leave for Delhi on Tuesday | PTI

EFFECTIVE implementation of the five guarantees given to the people of Karnataka and keeping its winning momentum till the 2024 Lok Sabha elections will be among the key factors that the Congress central leadership will be considering while deciding on the new chief minister and composition of its new government in the state.

Former chief minister Siddaramaiah, who has vast administrative experience, and the state Congress president DK Shivakumar, who halted the party's losing streak and enthused the cadre to take on the BJP, are the top contenders for the top post.

As the Congress leadership will be setting sights on the 2024 Lok Sabha polls, it will carefully weigh all the options. The party will be keen to further strengthen the organisation and provide a clean administration that delivers on its promises as the new government's performance will have a direct bearing on the party's prospects in the General Elections.

In the 2019 Lok Sabha polls, the Congress faced a humiliating defeat by winning just one of the 28 seats in Karnataka. Shivakumar's brother DK Suresh is the only Congress Lok Sabha member from Karnataka as all others, including AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge, former Union Ministers M Veerappa Moily, and KH Muniyappa lost the elections. Then, Congress-Janata Dal (Secular) alliance government was in power in the state.

Now, as the BJP will make all attempts to bounce back, the Congress will move cautiously and not mess up things by the time it faces the Lok Sabha polls. The party will want to avoide a Rajasthan-like situation.

Sources in the party said Siddaramaiah's administrative acumen can help Congress deliver on its poll promises without delays and bring in a visible change in governance. His clean image will make it difficult for BJP to target the government. Several allegations were made against him by the BJP in the run-up to the 2018 polls and even before that. Siddaramaiah and his party had rubbished those allegations.

Minorities, Backward Classes, and Dalits strongly back the former chief minister.

At the same time, it cannot afford to ignore Vokkaliga and Lingayat communities that backed Congress in the polls. Many prominent Vokkaliga seers have come out in support of Shivakumar as CM. As KPCC chief, Shivakumar played a crucial role in organizing the party that was demoralised after its successive defeats. After he took over, the party won many elections, including by-polls to the assembly, legislative council elections, and now, the stupendous show in the Assembly elections.

On the flip side, Shivakumar faces several cases. Many of those cases are being investigated by the Central agencies, the Congress leadership will be wary of the developments in those cases. Though Congress has accused the BJP of using Central agencies to target its leaders, the party will be cautious as many of those cases are still under investigation.

A senior Congress leader was of the view that the party may consider making Siddaramaiah CM and Shivakumar Deputy CM, while also continuing him as KPCC chief.

However, nothing has been decided as yet, sources said. While Shivakumar can work as part of the government headed by Siddaramaiah, keeping the former CM out of the new administration may not give it the much-needed stability to the government which needs to fast-track implementation of its welfare programmes.

The party also has to take into consideration the support it got from the Lingayat community as that would be crucial in the LS polls. Dent in its Lingayat support cost BJP heavily — and Congress cannot afford to lose that support.

Make DKS the CM: Cab drivers' assn to Sonia

Members of the Ola and Uber cab drivers' and owners' association and Karnataka Commercial Vehicle Drivers' Federation on Monday wrote to former AICC president Sonia Gandhi urging her to make KPCC chief DK Shivakumar the next CM. "Shivakumar approached the association voluntarily and supported the drivers. He held multiple meetings with the drivers... We have worked for the party without expecting anything. But now we want him as CM," said association president Tanveer Pasha.

Supporters of ex-CM Siddaramaiah gather outside his house demanding that the Congress leadership make him the next CM, on Monday; (below) Supporters of DK Shivakumar get a birthday cake to his house | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA, NAGARAJA GADEKAL

Brass mulls various power-sharing formulas to prevent Raj-like scenario

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

ON Monday, the national capital saw high-pitched action after Siddaramaiah's arrival in the afternoon to meet the top brass. Shivakumar is now set to leave for Delhi on Tuesday morning.

Sources said the party high command was mulling power-sharing formulas to diffuse any factionalism between the two camps to ensure that Karnataka does not go the Rajasthan way, where CM Ashok Gehlot and his former deputy Sachin Pilot were at odds over power-sharing.

Late in the evening, party's central observers for Karnataka former Maharashtra chief minister Sushilkumar Shinde, AICC general secretary Jitendra Singh, and former AICC general secretary Deepak Babaria met Kharge and held parleys.

While the Gandhis did not attend, Venugopal and general secretary in-charge of Karnataka Randeep Surjewala participated in the meeting. Siddaramaiah too did not take part in the meeting. He, along with his supporters, including former minister MB Patil and Dr Ajay Dharam Singh, camped in Delhi to stake claim for the top post.

According to sources, the leaders discussed the observers' report, besides votes cast by newly-elected MLAs through secret ballot on Sunday night.

On Sunday, the observers also met the newly-elected MLAs in Bengaluru to get their opinion on who should be the next CM. The Congress Legislature Party (CLP) also unanimously passed a resolution moved by Siddaramaiah and supported by Shivaumar and other senior Congress leaders to authorise Kharge to choose a candidate for CM's post.

Meanwhile, if the announcement about the new CM is made on Tuesday, there is a buzz in Congress circles that the swearing-in ceremony will be held on May 18.

POLITICAL THEATRE

BOMMAI MEETS RSS LEADERS, DISCUSSES POLL OUTCOME

BENGALURU: Two days after BJP's humiliating defeat in the Karnataka Assembly elections, outgoing Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Monday visited the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) office in Bengaluru and met its leaders and discussed the poll outcome and organising the party for the future. Addressing the media later, Bommai said he had a detailed discussion with the leaders of the RSS on the poll outcome and ways to organise the party in the coming days. Bommai also said a decision on organising the party will be taken after holding several rounds of discussions with the BJP state president (Nalin Kumar Kateel) and the high command. When asked about the BJP legislature party meeting, Bommai said it is yet to be convened. "It will be called soon," he said. On Sunday, Bommai had stated that they will call a meeting with MLAs and also with those who lost in the polls to discuss the poll outcome. The BJP managed to win just 66 seats in the recent Assembly elections. **ENS**

Veerashaiva Lingayats stake claim to CM's post

BANSY KALAPPA @ Bengaluru

EVEN as Congress leaders are holding back-to-back meetings to finalise the next chief minister, the Veerashaiva Lingayat community, which has 34 MLAs, has made a formal claim that a Lingayat should be made chief minister.

This claim comes after Vokkaliga pontiffs had on Sunday expressed their wish that a Vokkaliga should lead the state.

Veerashaiva Mahasabha chief and MLA **Shamanur Shivashankarappa** told *The New Indian Express* in a special interview that a Veerashaiva Lingayat should be chief minister. The Mahasabha sent a letter to AICC President Mallikarjun Kharge, former UPA chairperson Sonia Gandhi and other Congress leaders, stating that keeping the upcoming Lok Sabha polls in mind, the Congress should give an opportunity to a Veerashaiva Lingayat, but refrained from naming anyone.

Mahasabha secretary Renuka Prasanna confirmed that a letter had been sent.

PK: NAGARAJA GADEKAL

Veerashaiva Lingayats in the fray are campaign committee chief M B Patil, Mahasabha general secretary Eshwar Khandre, Davanagere South MLA Shamanur Shivashankarappa, Davangere North MLA SS Mallikarjun and others.

Lingayats account for 17-20 per cent of the state population, and have rock-solid influence over a significant number of leaders because of their charitable works like Dasoha and other welfare measures by mutts. This community's support will be critical for the Congress, which has just one seat in the Lok Sabha from Karnataka, namely Bangalore Rural. By contrast, there are nine Veerashaiva Lingayat MPs from the BJP.

Asked if he would like to be made the chief minister, Shamanur Shivashankarappa was candid. "Yes, who would not like to be made chief minister," he said. "I will make Karnataka corruption-free. I govern a large network of institutions and know how to run the system."

THE TEAM THAT SCRIPTED CONGRESS VICTORY

HUNDREDS OF LEADERS AND THOUSANDS OF WORKERS TOILED FOR THE CONGRESS' VICTORY IN THE RECENT KARNATAKA ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS. THE CREDIT SHOULD UNDOUBTEDLY GO TO ALL INDIA CONGRESS COMMITTEE PRESIDENT MALLIKARJUN KHARGE, KARNATAKA PRADESH CONGRESS COMMITTEE DK SHIVAKUMAR AND FORMER CHIEF MINISTER SIDDARAMAIAH FOR PROVIDING ABLE LEADERSHIP THROUGH THE FIERCELY FOUGHT BATTLE. TNIE TAKES A LOOK AT SOME OF THOSE WHO CONTRIBUTED SIGNIFICANTLY

Set the narrative, planned PayCM campaign

Sunil Kanugolu, 40-year-old master strategist, a native of Ballari district, is said to be the brain behind the Congress' thumping victory. Having worked with political strategist Prashant Kishore, Kanugolu has the experience of working with PM Narendra Modi when he was Gujarat CM. He started 'Association of Billion Minds' which was behind BJP's campaigns. Having worked for BJP's 2014 campaign and with the state BJP unit in the 2018 Assembly polls, Kanugolu was roped in by Congress in 2022. With a team of more than 100 members, he led the Congress war room and set the political narratives. He is the brain behind the 'PayCM' campaign. Kanugolu was also given the task of conducting secret surveys in each constituency and picking the winning candidate. Now that he has pulled off a success in Karnataka, Congress units of other states may also use his skill to see better results.

Handled legal issues, booth-level work

Sasikanth Senthil, a 2009-batch IAS officer who quit service in 2019 and joined the Tamil Nadu Congress, was an integral part of the state Congress war room. Senthil headed the 60-member coordination unit, which looked after booth-level work and handled contingency and legal issues. The team worked day in and day out since October last year, and Senthil's 10 years of service in the state of Karnataka helped the team. "We worked in two batches every day. Though the war room was set up several months ago, the core work started in October. The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) had only a few narratives while we (Congress) had so many issues to take up against them. Even their campaigning was very weak," the former IAS officer opines. Now, he is all set to return to Tamil Nadu and build the party there.

Set the pace with social media campaigns

Three-time MLA from Chittapur assembly constituency, 44-year-old **Priyank Kharge,** son of AICC President Mallikarjun Kharge, is the man behind the Congress social media team that started narratives with its novel and appealing campaigns. The party's social media platforms saw a drastic change after he was appointed chairman of KPCC Communication Cell. It raised issues like corruption, price hike, Hindi imposition and many more. Congress effectively used social media to highlight the corruption of the BJP government. When CM Basavaraj Bommai presented the state budget, Congress leaders ridiculed it with the 'Kivi Mele Hoova' (flower on ear) campaign, suggesting that the government was fooling the people. The social media team amplified the party's campaign across all platforms and played a key role in reaching the voters.

Coordinator who smoothed away dissent

As AICC General Secretary in charge of Karnataka, **Randeep Singh Surjewala** was the crucial link between the party's central and state leadership. Much before AICC chief Mallikarjun Kharge and other national leaders jumped into action, Surjewala started work almost six months before elections were declared. He played a big role as a coordinator, and ensured that the ticket distribution process was smooth. He helped state leaders take into confidence those aspirants who were not given tickets, and made sure there was no dissent among them. Importantly, he helped the party set the narrative against the BJP government, with corruption as a major poll plank. He along with other state leaders consistently highlighted issues such as PSI recruitment scam, bitcoin scam, 40% corruption and other allegations to put the BJP on the back foot.

2 held for trying to attack Congress MLA

KIRAN BALANNANAVAR
@ Ballari

TWO people were arrested for attempting to attack newly elected Ballari Rural MLA B Nagendra of the Congress during his victory procession in Ballari.

The incident allegedly took place on May 13, the day the results of the Karnataka Assembly elections were declared.

After the video went viral on social media, Nagendra's supporters and senior Congress leaders condemned the incident and requested the police to provide more security to all the newly elected Congress MLAs.

Fifty-two-year-old Nagendra defeated senior BJP leader B Sriramulu by nearly 29,000 votes in the recent polls.

Informed sources told TNIE that when the procession entered Ballari city, four people — Venkatesh Ramanjeneyalu (27), Ramesh K (31), Ramya (30) and Hanumesh (29) — tried to attack Nagendra.

However, Nagendra's bodyguards immediately caught Ramya and Venkatesh (who was in possession of a lethal weapon) and handed them over to the police. Ramesh and Hanumesh are absconding. The Cowl Bazar police have registered a case.

Confirming the incident, the police said Venkatesh also warned the crowd. "He was yelling at the MLA's supporters saying they are supporters of BJP leaders. Immediately, the MLAs gunman and other bodyguards hit them. Of the four, two were arrested on the spot and the weapon was also seized. Search is on to nab the other two accused," the police added.

Meanwhile, Congress leaders staged a protest demanding that the absconding duo be arrested immediately.

BJP worker killed after celebrations turn violent

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Kolar

POLITICAL violence broke out on Saturday night, leading to the murder of a BJP worker in D Settihalli, under Nandagudi police limits in Hoskote. The incident came to light on Sunday afternoon. Police registered a case against four Congress workers.

According to police sources, celebrations began soon after Sharath Bache Gowda was declared winner. He had contested against former minister MTB Nagaraj. Gowda's followers burst crackers and distributed sweets, forcing police to disperse the mob. Congress workers allegedly burst crackers in front of the house of Krishnappa (55), a BJP worker who had campaigned for Nagaraj. They threw the crackers near his house and raised slogans, and there was a heated altercation.

A group of persons, said to be his relatives, were assaulted with weapons. When his wife and son tried to rescue them, they were injured and rushed to hospital. Krishnappa sustained injuries on his chest and died on the spot.

CONG IMPLEMENTING 'VIOLENCE GUARANTEE'

Several state BJP leaders have condemned the alleged attack on party workers across Karnataka. BJP state president and Dakshina Kannada MP Nalin Kumar Kateel said the Congress is implementing the "Violence Guarantee" scheme after coming to power with a complete majority. "A BJP worker has been killed in Hoskote and two more workers have sustained serious injuries... an autorickshaw driver has been assaulted in Shivamogga for supporting BJP," Kateel stated in a press release "Congress leaders should not allow violence... several anti-national activities are taking place in the state. Hoisting the flag of Pakistan (allegedly in Bhatkal) is an anti-national act and this should have been prevented," Kateel said. Taking to Twitter, BJP Karnataka blamed the Congress for the attacks and said that they (Congress supporters) have lost their mind. "Congress will bring goondaraj and law and order will take a hit in the next five years," it said.

CBI has summoned Kadapa MP YS Avinash Reddy to appear before them at 11 am on Tuesday in connection with former minister YS Vivekananda Reddy murder case. The central agency suspects that Reddy was part of the conspiracy and destruction of crime scene evidence

Tamil Nadu CM MK Stalin meets a man undergoing treatment at Government Medical College for consuming spurious liquor, in Villupuram district, on Monday

TN hooch tragedy toll climbs to 17

Stalin hands over investigation to CB-CID

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Villupuram/Chennai

THE toll in the hooch tragedy increased to 17 on Monday with six more people dying in Marakkam and one more death in Madurantakam GH on Monday. Chief Minister M K Stalin said the investigation into the tragedy would be transferred to the Crime Branch-Criminal Investigation Department (CB-CID). While Villupuram police superintendent N Shreenatha, Villupuram Prohibition Enforcement Wing (PEW) DSP Pajany and Chengalpattu PEW DSP Duraipandian were suspended on Monday, Chengalpattu SP A Pradeep was transferred.

The CM announced a solatium of Rs 10 lakh each to the kin of dead and Rs 50,000 to those receiving treatment at hospitals. Stalin, who visited the Government Medical College Hospital in Mundiyampakkam on Monday afternoon and inquired about the treatment being provided to the victims admitted at the hospital, told doctors to offer them best medical care.

Later, talking to reporters, the CM said totally 44 people were undergoing treatment at Government Villupuram Medical College Hospital, Jawaharlal Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education and Research (JIPMER), and Government Hospital in Puducherry.

"In the first phase of investigation, it was found that the accused had used methanol. They have been arrested."

"In the Chengalpattu incident too it has been found that methanol was mixed with Tasmac liquor and sold. Stringent action will be taken against officials who failed to prevent such illegal activities," the CM said. The CM also held a meeting with collectors and SPs of Villupuram, Kallakurichi, Cuddalore, and Chengalpattu districts.

EPS: CM should take responsibility, resign

Tiruchy/Chennai: AIADMK leaders have called on Chief Minister MK Stalin and minister Senthilbalaji to resign and take responsibility for the hooch tragedy in Villupuram and Chengalpattu. AIADMK general secretary Edappadi K Palaniswami said Stalin had failed to act against rapid increase in the use of spurious liquor despite media reports on the issue. He said, "I raised the issue in the recent Assembly session. Had the CM acted on that, the deaths could have been prevented."

Oust Bandi, nine TS BJP leaders give ultimatum

IREDDY SRINIVAS REDDY
@ Hyderabad

CLOSE on the heels of its debacle in Karnataka, the BJP appears to be heading towards a crisis of sorts in Telangana. As many as nine prominent leaders have reportedly given an ultimatum to the party's central leadership to replace Telangana party chief **Bandi Sanjay Kumar** with Huzurabad legislator and former minister Eatala Rajender or face a revolt.

Sources told TNIE that the dissidents have made it clear that they would not hesitate to quit the party if Sanjay is retained. It is also learnt that the group of nine have urged Rajender, chairman of the BJP's "joinings committee" to bid adieu to the BJP in case he is not made the state party chief and float a new outfit. "Their idea is that the new outfit could strike an alliance with the Congress," the sources said.

Eatala Rajender rushed to Delhi on Monday to meet Union Home Minister Amit Shah. It remains to be seen how the BJP high command will react. The dissident leaders are also trying for an appointment with the top leadership to "explain the party position at the ground level" but have not got audience yet. The rebel leaders are unhappy that after the Munugode bypoll, no prominent leader from any other party has joined the BJP and put the blame for the same squarely on the shoulders of Sanjay.

If the party's central leadership does not respond, they are planning contest at least 25 Assembly seats after forming a party. A senior dissident leader told TNIE: "We are trying to form a new political party in Telangana with a BC leader at the helm. If we quit the BJP, we will strike a pre-poll alliance with Congress and contest in many seats in the Assembly elections later this year."

EXPRESS READ

MERCURY TO SOAR IN MOST PARTS OF K'TAKA: IMD

BENGALURU : With Kalaburagi and Bengaluru sizzling, IMD has said that there will be no rain in the next few days. Kalaburagi recorded a maximum temperature of 41 degrees Celsius on Sunday while Bengaluru on Monday evening recorded a maximum temperature of 33 degrees Celsius. For most parts of north, south and coastal Karnataka, IMD have forecast a rise of maximum temperatures by at least two degrees Celsius. Officials said the recent cyclone has sucked the moisture, leading to dry weather and mercury soaring.

However, there is a forecast of light rain in isolated places in Chikkamagaluru, Hassan, Kodagu, Mysuru and Ramangara districts of South-Interior Karnataka. "This year, pre-monsoon showers have been poor across Karnataka, but some rain is expected in the next 15 days," the IMD said. Meanwhile, IMD officials said normally, the monsoon arrives in Andaman coast on May 22 and June 1 in Kerala. The IMD Pune head office will issue the onset of monsoon schedule by May 22. "Some models show below normal rain till June, while others predict rain in parts of South-Interior Karnataka, including Bengaluru, will be good in August," the officials added. **ENS**

'One Stn One Product' gains popularity

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

THE 'One Station One Product' scheme by the Railway Ministry to promote local entrepreneurship, SHGs, and local products in the spirit of 'vocal for local', which commenced in March 2022, is gaining popularity. Under the scheme, OSOP outlets at railway stations are allotted for showcasing, selling and giving high visibility to indigenous/local products.

Of the 728 railway stations covered with 785 OSOP outlets as on May 1, 21 stalls are functioning at 21 stations in Karnataka selling artefacts made by indigenous tribes, handlooms by local weavers and handicrafts. While in KSR station in Bengaluru, OSOP stall showcases Channapatna toys, Tumakuru station has coconut products and traditional cold-pressed oils at Arsikere station, said a press release.

At KSR station, V Prakash of Bengaluru-based Balaji Handicrafts, said he was happy that Channapatna toys are becoming popular.

At Bengaluru Cantonment Station, OSOP has been allotted to Nagashree YR, who sells millets and organic honey, and said she feels proud to market her products in Bengaluru, and expressed gratitude to railways for supporting women entrepreneurs.

IN VARIOUS HUES

Artistes perform during cultural programmes at the Gangamma Temple Jaathara in Tirupati on Monday | MADHAV K

Seven killed, three injured in SUV-truck collision in AP

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Kadapa

Seven people were killed and three others seriously injured after an SUV in which they were travelling collided with a lorry near Chitravathi bridge at Yeturu village in Kondapur mandal in Kadapa district in the wee hours of Monday.

As many as 12 people were returning to Tadipatri and Ballari from Tirumala when the SUV hit the lorry at 5.30 am. Villagers rushed to the spot and recovered the bodies crushed inside the car. They shifted the injured to Tadipatri government hospital and later, moved them to KIMS Savera hospital in Anantapur for a better treatment.

Kadapa SP KKN Anburajan, who visited the accident spot, enquired about the health condition of the injured.

The mangled remains of the SUV near Chitravathi bridge | EXPRESS

The deceased have been identified as K Sudhakar Reddy (31), K Sudha (39), K Likhil Kumar Reddy (11), N Lakshmi Devi (38), K Sunil Kumar Reddy (39), Bujji(40) and K Subhadra (35).

NCB probing Indian links to record meth haul

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Kochi

THE Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB), which in a joint operation with the Indian Navy seized over 2,500kg of methamphetamine off the Kerala coast, has started looking for Indian links to the contraband, believed to have belonged to the Haji Salim network. NIA, which had named Karachi-based drug lord Haji Salim an accused in a 2021 drug bust, also collected details from the NCB regarding the seizure and arrested a foreign national on Monday.

According to sources, NCB is looking for agents in Tamil refugee camps with a history of drug running via sea routes. The bureau has widened its investigative net to Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. "This drug cartel involves people from Pakistan, Iran and Sri Lanka. Most of these boats are destined for Sri Lanka, which is a transit point for drug cartels to hit other countries, including India. There are Sri Lankan refugees who act as agents controlling the supply chain," they said.

NIA arrested a Sri Lankan agent from Chennai following the seizure of drugs from a boat with Lankan crew off Vizhinjam in 2021. Haji Salim was named an accused in the case and an arrest warrant is pending against him. Last year, NIA arrested Tamil refugees C Gunashekharan, Pushparajah and eight others from Tamil Nadu, believed to be aides of Haji Salim who were procuring drugs and arms from him.

"Most of these drugs reach Sri Lanka before being diverted to India and other countries. Haji Salim is mostly involved in the supplying heroin sourced through Afghanistan. Now the seizure of a large quantity of meth points to the establishment of laboratories on a large scale from where these synthetic drugs are produced in Pakistan," sources said.

Zubair Derakhshandeh, a foreign national, being produced before a first class magistrate on Monday | A SANESH

Meanwhile, the arrested foreign national has been identified as Zubair Derakhshandeh, 27. NIA sleuths visited the NCB office and collected information on the case. "NIA officials have sought information about the accused. A further probe will reveal the larger conspiracy behind the drug smuggling," sources said. Zubair was produced before the Mattancherry Judicial First Class Magistrate and remanded to judicial custody. He was later shifted to the Kakkanad district jail. NCB also produced the seized drugs before the court. The court after checking the seizure mahazar prepared by NCB.

> **Most of these drugs reach Sri Lanka before being diverted to India and other countries. Haji Salim is mostly involved in the supplying heroin sourced through Afghanistan** – Sources

KTR breaks ground for Foxconn's manufacturing unit

HYDERABAD: In a major boost to the growth of the electronics manufacturing industry in the Telangana, Taiwan-based Foxconn has decided to invest $500 million to create 25,000 jobs at its upcoming plant in Kongara Kalan, situated in Rangareddy district on the outskirts of Hyderabad. IT Minister KT Rama Rao along with firm chairman and CEO, Sidney Liu, took part in the groundbreaking ceremony of Foxconn Interconnect Technology's electronics manufacturing facility on Monday. The move is part of Foxconn Interconnect Technology's global expansion strategy. Rao said, "Today is a historic day because we are exactly where China was 30 years ago. However, we shall do what China has done for 30 years in 20 years. We have identified electronics manufacturing as a focus area. In the next decade, we aim to provide 1.5 million jobs in the state to create a $150-billion economy. As a state, we shall increase our per capita income by six times to $20,000 by 2040." **ENS**

'Mitigation probe' of 2 death row convicts: HC

P RAMDAS @ Kochi

IN a first in the judicial history of the state, the Kerala HC has decided to conduct a 'mitigation investigation' of two convicts on death row, ahead of deciding whether to confirm the capital punishment imposed on them. The investigation will cover their socioeconomic background, psychological conditions, history of neglect or abuse that they may have faced growing up and illness.

The court also directed the DG of prisons to file a report on the conduct of Nino Mathew and Muhammed Ameerul Islam, death convicts in the 2014 Attingal twin murder case and 2016 Perumbavoor Jisha murder case, respectively, and the nature of work done by them in prison.

The judgment may be the first to uphold guidelines by the Supreme Court in Manoj vs the State of Madhya Pradesh regarding mitigation investigation for death-row convicts. Nino is being held at Poojappura jail, while Muhammed is housed in Viyyur prison.

The court also cited the observation of the SC in Rajendra Pralhadrao Wasnik's case that, "We should not forget that the criminal, however ruthless, is nevertheless a human being." A division bench of Justices Alexander Thomas and C Jayachandran issued the order when the case for death sentence references of the convicts came up for hearing. The counsel for the convicts requested the mitigative investigation in view of the SC rulings. The HC also considered the opinion of amici curiae – advocates Sai Pooja and Mitha Sudheendran.

Autorickshaw with water kiosk wins hearts

G JANARDHAN RAO @ Visakhapatnam

An auto driver from Akuvanipalem in Marripalem area is inspiring many with his innovation to beat the blistering heat. Durga Prasad, 35, has converted his auto partially into a mobile water kiosk to quench the thirst of the people, mostly pedestrians and daily wage workers.

Durga Prasad told TNIE he came up with the idea of the mobile water kiosk after he found passengers, mostly workers, finding it difficult to get drinking water on the outskirts of Gajuwaka and other areas. Durga Prasad has installed two water cans by removing the twin seats for passengers. "I am not worried about losses as I'm unable to accommodate passengers. It am happy to give water to the thirsty people in summer," he said.

BUS BIRTH

Lady conductor helps woman deliver baby

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

A pregnant woman travelling in a KSRTC bus delivered a baby girl with help from a lady conductor on Monday. The woman, who was travelling in the bus from Bengaluru to Chikkamagaluru, went into labour around 1.30 pm near Udayapura Agriculture College.

With no hospitals nearby, the lady conductor, S Vasanthamma immediately stopped the bus, asked all 45 passengers to alight and the woman delivered the baby inside the bus.

Later, the duo were shifted to Shanthagrama Hospital.

The KSRTC crew and passengers, who realised that the woman was poor, also collected ₹1,500 and gave her the money. Vasanthamma's role during an emergency was appreciated by KSRTC MD Sathyavathi, and also the netizens, who urged the corporation to give a free lifetime bus pass to the baby girl.

KSRTC bus conductor Vasanthamma (left) holds the baby girl

Muslim activists slam maulvis for demanding key posts for community

MOHAMMED YACOOB @ Bengaluru

MAULVIS of the Muslim community, including Wakf Board Chairman Shafi Saadi, are demanding that key portfolios be given to Muslim MLAs. Some are also demanding the deputy chief minister's post for Chamarajpet MLA B Z Zameer Ahmed.

But Muslim intellectuals have taken objection to this. Slamming the maulvis and accusing them of displaying sycophancy, they said the need of the hour is good policies drawn up for the community.

Socio-political activist Hares Siddique lashed out at the maulvis and imams, and termed them "directionless people". "Some sections have taken to social media, demanding that a Muslim be made DyCM. Such a post adds no value to the community on the ground, the DyCM's post or any other portfolio should be left to the party, and Muslim MLAs should not worry about it," said Hares.

Education suffered a major setback in the past four years because scholarships were curtailed. BSc Agri, PhD and higher professional education has seen a significant drop because of this curtailment. The hijab issue has severely impacted Muslim girls' education. "We should ask for additional scholarship grants which will be demand-based and not target-based. Hijab ban should be revoked," pointed out Hares.

R Kaleemullah from Swaraj India, who works for migrant workers' rights, said it is maulvis who spoil the image of the community. "When there were community issues, these maulvis did not step out. Some of them even questioned Rahul Gandhi's Bharat Jodo Yatra, and now want to come into the limelight," he said.

Echoing similar views, Faiz Akram Pasha from the NGO Jana Sadbhavana, working on the rights of political prisoners, said, "Funds kept for the education of Muslims, and scholarships for minority development were diverted. These are the issues that should be raised. Earlier, minister Zameer Ahmed had resigned when Kumaraswamy was CM, because the latter did not visit Chamarajpet Eidgah Maidan during Ramzan prayers. He should have ensured the funds were used for the community," said Pasha.

The intellectuals also lashed out at leaders like Abdul Azeem, chairman of the Minority Commission and Wakf Board chairman, for sticking to his post during such issues.

EDITORIAL

The longer we dwell on our misfortunes, the greater is their power to harm us

Voltaire

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Ramnath Goenka

2024 ELECTION: NAVEEN PATNAIK READY WITH STRATEGY FOR ODISHA

If politics were an art, Odisha Chief Minister and Biju Janata Dal (BJD) supremo Naveen Patnaik would go down as a maestro. How he deals with complex political relationships without compromising his and his party's ideology and objectives leaves even his worst detractors in awe. On Saturday, within hours of his party defeating rival BJP in the Jharsuguda bypoll, he trained his guns at the national party and assailed its 'double engine' slogan.

"Double engine does not matter; only good and pro-people governance touches people," he said, addressing party workers from the BJD headquarters. It's hard to miss the timing, as the saffron party had just been handed a resounding defeat at the hands of the Congress in Karnataka. Naveen's critique came only days after he met Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Delhi, where he dismissed the possibility of an anti-BJP front, giving rise to speculations about his proximity to the national party. In the last two months, he met two of his old friends—Nitish Kumar and Mamata Banerjee—who came seeking support for the third front they are forging ahead of the 2024 elections to take on the BJP. On both occasions, he had termed the meetings apolitical. The two counterparts with whom he shares cordial relationships have made it amply clear they have no qualms with Naveen's stand.

One of the longest-serving chief ministers of the country, the BJD boss has been unwavering in his focus. Even while supporting the NDA government on matters of national concern, he has missed no chance to cross swords with it over state issues. With another general election coming his way, Naveen has once again sent out the message loud and clear that BJP remains his party's number one opponent in Odisha.

A ministry reshuffle is in the offing so that he can give adequate representation to regions where BJD will likely face challenges. Performance appraisal of ministers and MLAs has been undertaken. His government also completed the formation of Special Development Councils (SDCs) in 23 out of 30 districts. The SDCs, meant to preserve and promote tribal culture and art, are political entities that would help neutralise BJP's increasing attempts to make inroads into the Scheduled Tribe areas of the state. As he navigates through a dynamic political turf, Naveen steers clear of murky waters with his political astuteness and steadfast focus on his biggest constituent—his state.

HISTORIC FEAT BUT BOXERS MUST TRUMP THIS HIGH

Ever since Beijing Olympics medallist Vijender Singh won India's first medal in boxing, expectations are high every time an Indian boxer waltzes into the ring at any of the World Championships. The bar has been raised, and India has consistently won medals in the prestigious event. Though the high of the women—they finished with four gold at the Women's World Championships in New Delhi—could not be matched, men, too, created history by winning three medals in a single edition of the marquee event for the first time in Tashkent last week. Though a final finish by any of the boxers—Mohammad Hussamuddin, Deepak Bhoria and Nishant Dev—would have raised the bar much higher, three bronze medals can be considered credible, especially given the current climes. In sports where India has medalled in the Olympics, the athletes have had a difficult run this year.

P V Sindhu and the other singles bunch continue to toil without success. Making an early exit from the ongoing Sudirman Cup on Monday clearly shows their dwindling form. Even Olympic medallist weightlifter Mirabai Chanu had a subdued show at the recently held Asian Championships in South Korea, where she finished sixth. The wrestlers' future remains uncertain, with the protest against the sidelined Wrestling Federation of India chief Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh still on. The Paris Olympics is just over a year away, and this definitely does not augur well. Amid these testing times, Olympic champion Neeraj Chopra's top finish at the season's first Diamond League was a welcome relief.

Coming back to boxing, this is a positive start to the season. But the boxers had their share of uncertainty early on. They struggled to get a chief coach until C A Kuttappa was re-appointed. Boxing India took an eternity to appoint Ireland's Bernard Dunne as high performance director after Santiago Nieva's exit. There was furore over a selection policy that did not care much about performance in nationals but depended more on form—it had to be withdrawn after the matter landed up in court. The Asian Games in September is set to be the Olympics' qualifying event, and there is no time to waste. Boxing India must return to the drawing board and make plans to ensure maximum qualification for the Paris Games.

QUICK TAKE

FINANCIAL INCLUSION

The government regularly reviews the penetration of women's empowerment schemes. The oversight is necessary, but the focus must be on their financial inclusion. Equal access to financial services available to men is the first step. In the bottom strata in the rural areas, women's beneficiary status doesn't always turn them into entrepreneurs. Their financial inclusion is limited to accessing a bank account, but hardly any access to savings and credit. They must be made financially literate to access micro-credit and allowed waiver of loan collateral. Owning mobile phones expands their digital literacy, while doorstep banking services help them overcome social inhibitions.

The court said that one must be 'careful about staying films'. The market will decide if it is not up to the mark

THE KERALA STORY: DEMANDS SEEKING ITS BAN BASELESS

A SURYA PRAKASH

Former Chairman of Prasar Bharati and scholar of democracy studies

SOUMYADIP SINHA

The decisions of the Supreme Court and the Kerala High Court not to entertain petitions seeking the ban of the film *The Kerala Story* must be welcomed because otherwise, we would be heading towards an irretrievable breakdown of democratic traditions in the country. Only recently, the higher judiciary refused to intervene when some members of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) sought similar injunctions against a song—*Besharam Rang*—in Shahrukh Khan's movie *Pathan*. Similarly, there have been instances in the past when some Hindi films sought to ridicule Hindu godmen, but the courts refused to intervene.

The Kerala Story is a movie that highlights terrorism and entities like ISIS, and the message of this film is central to the survival of democracy in the country. Yes, it targets terrorist groups who promote barbaric practices in the name of religion. Every Indian who longs for the survival of a secular, democratic and liberal society in India will have to call out all such forces. Freedom of expression is not a one-way street and there cannot be two sets of approaches to issues dealing with different religions.

However, several attempts were made to stop the release of the movie. Initially, the Supreme Court refused to entertain the petitions and asked the petitioners to approach the Kerala High Court. The high court also refused to intervene in the matter. It said a competent authority—the Central Board of Film Certification—has seen the film and found it suitable for public exhibition.

When the petitioners approached the Supreme Court yet again, Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud said the bench had applied its mind. How many times will this be challenged? Significantly, the court said that one must be "careful about staying films". The market will decide if it is not up to the mark.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi also told a public rally in Karnataka that the film exposed the ugly side of terrorism and its consequences for society.

In any case, many years ago when the Sangh Parivar raised the issue of "Love Jihad", the Hindu middle class which had been fed on a staple pseudo-secular diet from the days of Jawaharlal Nehru mocked the idea and laughed at those who used such terms.

However, with the passage of time, it is now accepted even by Hindus who squirm at the idea of being identified as Hindus, that this is now a reality in Kerala and some other states and regions like coastal Karnataka.

Meanwhile, the Christians in Kerala who joined the Muslims in ridiculing the Sangh Parivar's "fake narrative" are now called upon to revisit the issue in the wake of allegations that Christian girls are now falling into the "Love Jihad" trap.

In 2010, V S Achuthanandan, the then chief minister of Kerala, said that the Popular Front of India (PFI) planned to Islamise Kerala "using money and marriages".

Around that time, the Kerala High Court also ordered a probe into allegations of there being an organised racket in conversions. In 2012, the then chief minister Oommen Chandy informed the state Assembly that 2,667 young women had been converted to Islam in the state since 2006, most of whom were Hindus and some Christians. In fact, one of the three girls "trapped" in the movie is a Christian—in fact, an adherent of the Roman Catholic Church.

Having seen the film, this writer would like to say that while some individuals claiming to represent the Muslims are finding the film objectionable, they must know that there is much in the movie that can offend the Hindus and the Christians as well. For example, in the film, a Muslim protagonist—Asifa—who is tasked to trap the Hindu and Christian girls in her hostel, tells her hostel mates and all those watching the movie what she thinks of Hinduism and Christianity. She says unlike her God, the Hindu gods are helpless. Rama was helpless when Ravana abducted his wife and even took the help of a *Vaanar* (monkey) to rescue her. Krishna is famous for his *Rasleela*, casting a glad eye on the girls all the time, and there is a god who is carrying his ailing wife all around Bharat in search of help.

She then turns to the Christian and says, "When Jesus was crucified, your God did nothing to help him." She goes on to say: "This being the 'fate' of your gods, how can they ever help you?" The Hindu and Christian girls are simply not equipped to counter the Muslim girl's vicious propaganda against their religious beliefs. But, it does not end there. Asifa then goes on to tell them that only Allah can save them and protect them.

The brainwashing continues. In another situation, she instigates an attack on the girls in the marketplace and while consoling them, talks about the virtues of the hijab. Wear the hijab and Allah will protect you from molestation and rape, she says. From then on, all the girls switch to the hijab.

Asifa tells the Hindu girls, Shalini and Geetanjali, that they are "kafirs" fit for the hellfire. The girls panic. How do we save ourselves, they ask. Only Allah can save you, says Asifa, provided you convert to Islam. There are repeated contemptuous remarks about Hinduism, while exalting the virtues of Islam. One girl is told to spit on her "kafir" father and demand her share of the property because it is not a sin to make such demands on "kafirs".

Finally, one of the girls, who is fully brainwashed, returns home after converting to Islam and tells her communist father: "I am ashamed to be a Hindu." In the movie, Shalini lands up in ISIS territory. Geetanjali hangs herself after her Muslim boyfriend releases her nude pictures when she gets out of his clutches, and the Christian girl is repeatedly raped and runs from pillar to post for help.

All this in a nation where the Hindus constitute one billion and 80% of the population. Yet, they and the Christians remain tolerant and silent. And who are those who are complaining? Some alleged defenders of Islam! At this rate, we will have to say, "Democracy khatre me hai!"

(suryamedia@gmail.com)

CONDUCT OF JUDGES CRUCIAL IN DEMOCRACY

KALEESWARAM RAJ

Lawyer, Supreme Court of India

A farewell party for the former chief justice of the Kerala High Court—recently arranged by Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan and a few selected ministers in the cabinet at a hotel—has ignited controversy. Former Kerala chief justice S Manikumar retired on April 23, and the party was held a few days before his retirement. In another episode, the Lok Ayukta and the Upa Lok Ayukta in Kerala attended an Iftar feast organised by the chief minister which, too, has witnessed a row, particularly for the reason that the consideration for a case alleging misuse of the chief minister's relief fund was pending before the Lok Ayukta.

Justice is an imperative. The Preamble of the Constitution talks about social, economic and political justice. Though not as such stated in the Preamble, judicial justice rendered through the courts across the country is at the core of democracy. The preambular promises also very much depend upon the quality of judicial justice. Again, the quality of judicial justice is determined by the quality of judges who run the court or the institution. Therefore, the conduct of the judges, both on and off the bench, matters.

The judges in India are not political appointees as it happens in the US courts. A judge must make a lot of sacrifices. He may not be a hermit, yet ideally should be somewhat closer to a hermit.

The Supreme Court in the case of *Ravichandran Iyer* (1995) said: "To keep the stream of justice clean and pure, the judge must be endowed with sterling character, impeccable integrity and upright behaviour" and that the "erosion thereof would undermine the efficacy of the rule of law and the working of the Constitution itself". In *All India Judges' Association Case* (1991), the court said that "the conduct of every judicial officer should be above reproach".

The question, however, is not doctrinal or propositional. In practice, how do we ensure that our judges behave properly? What is the mode of checks and balances against judicial misbehaviour? How can there be a safeguard against misconduct or other aberrations by the robed umpires?

Judging the judges is not easy. An independent mechanism to oversee the functioning of the judges might invite criticism that it could meddle with the independence of the judiciary, which again is a basic feature of the country's Constitution.

Curiously, the in-house efforts to discipline the errant judges have their roots in India. The Bangalore Principles of Judicial Conduct were adopted by the Round Table Meeting of Chief Justices held in 2002 at the Peace Palace, The Hague. According to the Bangalore Principles, the judges are supposed to "exhibit and promote high standards of judicial conduct in order to reinforce public confidence in the judiciary" and "avoid impropriety and the appearance of impropriety" and "accept personal restrictions". A full court meeting of the Indian Supreme Court approved a "restatement of values of judicial life" in 1997.

AFP

> It is wrong to say that one can only criticise the judgments and not the judges. When a judge misbehaves in such a way that he causes erosion of the public's faith in the judiciary, it is the duty of the Bar, the media, and the society at large to raise their voices

It is wrong to say that one can only criticise the judgments and not the judges. When a judge misbehaves in such a way that he causes erosion of the public's faith in the judiciary, it is the duty of the Bar, the media, and the society at large to raise their voices. Judges carry out a public function. As Lord Atkin famously remarked, "Justice is not a cloistered virtue: she must be allowed to suffer the scrutiny and respectful, even though outspoken, comments of ordinary men."

The problem, however, is that many of the lawyers' bodies are not willing to take up this task. Franz Kafka, in his celebrated novel *The Trial*, shared a note of pessimism when he said that the lawyers behaved as if the betterment of the court system is none of their concern. The lawyers do have a critical role in preserving and maintaining the quality of judicial justice.

As regarding the media, only a small section is able to carry out their oppositional function in relation to the judiciary. The episodes indicated in this write-up were exposed by an alert media, which of course, is commendable. But, by and large, Indian courts need greater scrutiny. Max Boot, a famous US journalist, has revealed the fault lines in the US judiciary from the bottom to the top, in his remarkable work *Out of Order: Arrogance, Corruption, and Incompetence on the Bench* (Basic Books, 1998). He said that "anyone who wants decent, democratic government ought to be concerned about judges who misbehave, or exceed their authority, or issue unjust decisions". In another episode, *Reuters* exposed the glaring inequalities prevailing in the US Supreme Court in *The Echo Chamber* (December 8, 2014).

The Kerala High Court and all the other high courts in the country have a great legacy. In *Chandrakumar v. Union of India* (1997), the Supreme Court itself acknowledged the importance of the high courts. Many of them are older than the Supreme Court. They are closer to the people.

The court is not an extension of the government secretariat and an indication to the contrary should never be conveyed to the public. Therefore, it is essential to maintain the quintessential relation between the court as an institution and the public. The government is the single largest litigant in every state and Kerala is no exception.

The controversial conduct of the chief justice of the Kerala High Court, now retired, in attending the party held by the chief minister, was unbecoming of the high office held by him. Same is the case with the Lok Ayukta judges, too, who committed the same wrong. When the judges go wrong, the system suffers a credibility crisis. Credibility is earned, not commanded.

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(Tweets @KaleeswaramR)

MAILBAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

Vanti's liberation

Apropos of *When a young lad helped himself to some puttu* (May 15). The line, "Shiva gave Vanti liberation itself for a handful of puttu" attracted my mind and heart. I will be 75 this July. The thought of leaving this mortal body comes to me. The question is: Is it liberation if one leaves his/her mortal remains? Especially, if it is helped and enabled by God?

A Rajakumar, email

Omnipresent God

Lord Shiva is omnipresent and is in every living being as its essence. How liberal and compassionate Lord Shiva is to be a servant of his devotee and thereby teach a lesson to the king. Renuka Narayanan is adept in retelling stories from the *Puranas*.

G Nataraja Perumal, email

Adopting AI

Apropos of *Fear of the unknown thwarting AI adoption* (May 15). As rightly stated, technology's development took place over the centuries and it galloped during the 20th century, creating enormous job opportunities and at the same time leaving millions jobless. However tricky the result is, we are forced to adopt AI. Let us hope that the ever-resourceful human brain can enable it to serve us.

S Madhavan Thampi, Haripad

Imran's rhetoric

Imran Khan's message to his party workers through his rhetoric, "Freedom does not come easily, you have to snatch it. You have to sacrifice for it" is condemnable. Just to keep his protest alive, it is unbecoming of a former PM to incite party cadre to revolt against the government. It shows his selfishness, without any concern for the loss of lives. The common man is always used as a pawn in the power games of political leaders.

R Sridharan, Chennai

Election takeaways

Apropos of *After the K'taka battle, a few key takeaways* (May 15). Karnataka is becoming a two-party state following the decimation of JDS, one of the most opportunistic and selfish parties. Congress should consider its win only as a lifeline in national politics, while BJP should learn it is not prudent to mix too much religion with politics. What Congress does in the state will be keenly watched across India.

C G Kuriakose, Kothamangalam

Congress manifesto

Congress won, but at what cost? Is it the policies, anti-incumbency or the list of freebies? It's time the SC or EC intervenes with regards to these juicy promises, which are indirectly amounting to bribing the voters in the name of an election manifesto.

M Karthikeyan, Tiruchy

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

Chairman of the Board: **Manoj Kumar Sonthalia** Editor: **Santwana Bhattacharya**

Published by **R K Jhunjhunwala** on behalf of Express Publications (Madurai) Private Limited, at No. 1, Queen's Road, Bengaluru - 560 001 and printed by him at Express Press, Plot No. 2A, Bommasandra Industrial Area, 4th Phase, Survey No. 46, Part Yarandahalli Village, Jigani Hobli, Anekal Taluk. Bengaluru - 560 099. **Bengaluru.** Vol. 59, No. 115 RNI Reg. No. 3457/1960. Phone: 080-22866893. **Copyright:** Express Publications (Madurai) Private Limited. All rights reserved. Reproduction in any manner, electronic or otherwise, in whole or in part, without prior written permission is prohibited.

TWEETS OF THE DAY

Mehbooba Mufti @MehboobaMufti
Shocking that GOI promotes violence through films stoking communal fires. Blood of innocents is being spilled to quench BJPs thirst for poll dividends

Mallikarjun Kharge @kharge
Today, CM of Jharkhand and our alliance partner, @HemantSorenJMM met at 10 Rajaji Marg to convey his best wishes for the Cong victory in Karnataka

Yogi Adityanath @myogiadityanath
The great revolutionary Sukhdev, the immortal son of Mother India, gave his supreme sacrifice for the freedom of the country

'Constitution empowers states to collect data'

The stay on Bihar caste census is based on erroneous understanding of law, says Prof G Mohan Gopal

THE interim decision of the Patna High Court to stay the Bihar caste survey is based on an erroneous understanding of the law, says **Prof G Mohan Gopal**, former vice-chancellor of the National Law School, Bengaluru, and former director of the National Judicial Academy.

Prof Gopal, who challenged the EWS quota amendment in the Supreme Court, tells **Preetha Nair** that it would be difficult for the Congress party to be part of any social justice coalition in a serious and enduring manner. **Excerpts:**

Q) How do you see the coming together of social justice parties and Congress on the new social justice agenda ahead of the 2024 polls? In Karnataka also, caste census was a dominant election plank. Will the new slogan 'Jitni abaadi, utna haq' change the political landscape of the country. like in the 90s?

It is going to be difficult for Congress to be part of any social justice coalition in a serious and enduring manner. This is because Congress's social coalition consists of SEFCs (socially and educationally forward classes), SC/ST, and minorities. This coalition leaves out and opposes SEFCs, especially Hindu SEBCs (socially and educationally backward classes). As a result, SEBCs have virtually no voice inside the Congress. On the other hand, pro-social justice regional parties are based on a social coalition of SEBCs, minorities, and SC/ST. They oppose Chaturvarnya forces. The question is: will Congress be able to change its social coalition and align with the social coalition of the social justice parties?

Verbatim

Q) Though state governments need caste data to implement reservation in jobs, education, local bodies, etc, they face legal hurdles. The Bihar government's ongoing caste survey was stayed by Patna HC. Will it be a setback for other states? Can states undertake a caste census?

The interim decision of the court to stay the Bihar caste census is based on an erroneous understanding of the law. The difference between a census and a survey is that in the former a full head count is carried out whereas in the latter only a sample is enumerated. The Constitution fully empowers state governments to collect statistics within their state as needed, based on a full headcount, and does not compel State Governments to limit themselves to data based on samples.

India is currently an oligarchy in which four castes control the power of the Union and of the nation. If this oligarchy has to be dismantled and we have to move to a symmetrical and equal distribution of power amongst groups

Prof G Mohan Gopal

Q) There is a growing clamour for a nationwide caste-based census from Opposition parties. Why is a caste-based enumeration imperative to design policies and programmes?

Castes have always been enumerated in the census, in colonial times and after independence. After independence, caste enumeration was limited by the Government of India to Scheduled Castes. Our census has always organized our population into various groups for enumeration.

For example, the 2011 census gathered data on some 15 broad groups — based respectively on religion, caste (limited to SC category), membership of ST category, sex, age, marital status, disability, language, literacy and education, occupation, class of work, nature of industry, trade or service, place of birth and residence, migration characteristics and fertility.

Q) The real question is: on what basis are SEBCs and SEFCs alone excluded from the census after 1947, while SC and religious groups are included in the census?

The inclusion of all groups in the census is required by at least three clear constitutional mandates. Article 38(2) emphatically mandates inter-group equality and provides that "The state shall, in particular, strive to minimise the inequalities in income, and endeavor to eliminate inequalities in status, facilities and opportunities, not only among individuals but also among people residing in different areas or engaged in different vocations."

The purpose of Article 38(2) is to rid India of rule by any oligarchy — in which a handful of ruling groups are asymmetrically and unequally powerful compared to other groups. India is currently an oligarchy in which four castes control the power of the Union and of the nation. If this oligarchy has to be dismantled and we have to move to a symmetrical and equal distribution of power amongst groups, a census mapping the asymmetry of power should be seen as a Constitutional mandate.

To ensure representative democracy, a basic feature of Constitution, Article 16(4) of Constitution vests a fundamental right in every class of citizen to be "adequately represented in the services under the State."

The fundamental right of each class of adequate representation in services under the state cannot be enforced without a census that accurately establishes the population of each class of citizens. The discriminatory exclusion of a particular section of citizens (SEBCs and SEFCs) from enumeration makes it impossible for these excluded groups to know whether their right to adequate representation is being enforced.

For some years now, the judiciary has been demanding data on representation as a pre-condition for SEBC reservation. However, such data is not available for SEBCs because of their exclusion from the census. In effect, this defeats the right to adequate representation.

Q) The Centre has told Parliament and SC that it won't conduct a cast e census as a matter of policy. Why do you think govt is hesitant to count castes?

SEBCs and SEFCs are not being included in caste census since independence to conceal hugely skewed distribution of power and resources between these two groups. The exclusion from the census is also intended to hide the small size of the SEFC population and the massive numbers of SEBCs.

Post-K'taka polls, Didi softens stand on backing Cong

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ New Delhi

INDICATING a rethink on her part following the Congress formidable victory in the Karnataka assembly polls, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has said that her party will consider supporting the Congress wherever the latter is in a stronger position in the Lok Sabha election scheduled to be held next year. So far, the TMC and the Congress did not seem to have an understanding on the issue of forging a common front against the BJP.

Speaking to reporters at Kolkata on Monday, the TMC supremo said, "Wherever the Congress is strong, let them fight. We will give them support. There is nothing wrong in that". The West Bengal CM has clarified her stand on the issue after years of antipathy towards the Grand Old Party.

Notably, efforts are being made by leaders such as Bihar CM Nitish Kumar to forge Opposition unity to take on the BJP's juggernaut in the 2024 Lok Sabha election.

The statement by Banerjee West Bengal CM comes close on the heels of a meeting held by Kumar in Kolkata with her.

However, she also said that the Congress has to back other parties to get support in the Lok Sabha election.

Wherever the Congress is strong, let them fight. We will give them support. There is nothing wrong in that. My salutation to the people of Karnataka for their decisive mandate in favour of change

Mamata Banerjee, West Bengal CM

She also hinted that that she expects the seat-sharing formula giving priority to regional parties in areas where they are strong and in deciding the position from an electoral point of view. She categorically said, "Strong regional parties must be given priority".

A couple of days ago, she had posted a significant tweet following the declaration of the assembly election results in Karnataka. "My salutation to the people of Karnataka for their decisive mandate in favour of change!" Mamata had said in a tweet.

Shah says law-drafting officials need to upgrade skills from time to time

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

AN inefficient legislative drafting system can weaken laws, said Home Minister Amit Shah said on Monday. Inaugurating a training programme on legislative drafting for state and central government officials, he said: "It is of utmost necessity that the skills of the legislative drafting officials are upgraded from time to time."

He further said legislature is not a body of legal experts but that of public representatives, who are aware of the problems and aspirations of the people. Moulding these laws as per the letter and spirit of the Constitution is a heavy responsibility that lies on the legislative department, he added.

"The more simple and clear the drafting of the laws, the easier it is to implement a law. Clear drafting also keeps the possibility of judicial overstepping at bay. The more grey area left during the drafting process, the more scope for judicial interpretations," he said.

He maintained that legislative drafting is neither art nor science. It is rather skill that has to be practiced while remaining in touch with the spirit of the Constitution, he said, adding if there is no debate about the law for 25 years and the judiciary does not have to step in to interpret it, it will be seen as the flawlessness of the skill of the drafting official.

Home Minister Amit Shah at the inauguration of a programme on legislative drafting for state and central government officials, in Delhi, on Monday | EXPRESS

"To upgrade the skills of drafting law one has to read the laws which have attracted lesser debates because of their clarity. Moreover, if time permits also read the debates of the constituent assemblies," he said.

Noting that it is necessary to have a grip on the language, he said the spirit of the law is sometime lost in translation.

"I am glad that the tradition of training legislative drafting officials which was stopped for whatever reason has started again. We need to upgrade our skills along with the changes that are sweeping over the globe or else we will become irrelevant," he said.

The government under PM Narendra Modi has rescinded nearly 2,000 irrelevant laws, he said. "We have freed the society, the lawyers and the judiciary from a jungle of laws. The government also has not shied away from making new laws whenever necessary," he said.

IN A FIRST

Rlys signages will soon be of same standard

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR
@ New Delhi

IN a first for the Indian Railways, authorities have started working to ensure uniform and standardised signages – which would also be 'divyang-friendly' – at country's more than 7,000 railway stations.

This initiative has been finalised to standardise all the signages on the basis of colour, fonts and the use of pictograms at railway stations denoting availability of railway utility services, the names of railway stations and others.

As part creating a new identity of new India through rail services, Union Railway minister Ashwini Vaishnaw on Monday here, unveiled the booklet on standard signages accompanied by chairman railway board AK Lahoti and others.'

The railways,which is moving faster towards becoming world first largest green railway by 2030, is also redeveloping 1,275 railway stations.

SEBI to SC: Probe into Adani not on since 2016, six months more needed

SHRUTI KAKKAR @ New Delhi

SEEKING justification of extension of six months time to complete the probe into the Adani Hindenburg saga, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) on Monday told the Supreme Court that the same is being sought for ensuring the carriage of justice while keeping in mind the investor's interest.

Underscoring the complexity of transactions referred, the SEBI said, "In respect of the investigation/examination relating to 12 transactions referred to in the Hindenburg report, prima facie it is noted that these transactions are highly complex and have many sub-transactions across numerous jurisdictions and a rigorous investigation of these transactions would require collation of data/information from various sources including bank statements from multiple domestic as well as international banks, financial statements of onshore and offshore entities involved in the transactions and contracts and agreements, if any, entered between the entities."

Minister of State for Finance, Pankaj Chaudhary, told the Lok Sabha on 19th July 2021 that SEBI was investigating the Adani Group. Now SEBI tells the Supreme Court that they have not been investigating any of the serious allegations against Adani! Which is worse — , or being fast asleep as lakhs of investors are duped by alleged money-laundering and round-tripping using offshore shell companies

Jairam Ramesh, Congress leader

FinMin clarification, P10

Denying the allegation levelled by the petitioners that SEBI has been investigating Adani since 2016, the affidavit says the probe actually pertained to the issuance of Global Depository Receipts by 51 Indian listed companies, which did not include any listed company of Adani Group.

SEBI had told SC it with regards to investigation into Minimum Public Shareholding norms had already approached eleven overseas Regulators under the Multilateral Memorandum of Understanding with International Organisation of Securities Commission as early as October 2020.

Reacting to the submission by the SEBI, Congress leader Jairam Ramesh said that development amounts to misleading Parliament. "Minister of State for Finance, Pankaj Chaudhary, told the Lok Sabha on 19th July 2021 that SEBI was investigating the Adani Group. Now SEBI tells the Supreme Court that they have not been investigating any of the serious allegations against Adani! Which is worse— , or being fast asleep as lakhs of investors are duped by alleged money-laundering and round-tripping using offshore shell companies?"

The affidavit has been submitted in the application filed by SEBI seeking extension of time to complete the probe.

Indian pharma all set to be $130 bn industry by 2030, says Mandaviya

KAVITA BAJELI-DATT @ New Delhi

INDIA is recognized as a global pharmaceutical hub, with its industry playing a pivotal role in improving health outcomes worldwide by serving as a dependable supplier of affordable and high-quality drugs, said Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya on Monday.

"The Indian pharmaceutical industry includes a network of 3,000 drug companies and 10,500 manufacturing units. It is projected to reach a value of $130 billion by 2030," he said while interacting with Japanese pharma companies and members of the Japan Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association (JPMA), at the Indian Embassy in Tokyo.

"India has played a significant role in enhancing global accessibility by providing approximately 60% of the global vaccine supply and 20-22% of generic exports. In the battle against the COVID-19 pandemic, India has supplied essential drugs to around 185 countries," said the minister, who is visiting Japan to attend the G7 Health Ministers' Meeting.

RIGHT PRESCRIPTION

The Indian pharmaceutical industry has been expanding. There are

3,000 drug companies | 10,500 manufacturing units

New Delhi played a major role in enhancing global access to vaccines

India accounts about **60%** of the global vaccine supply and **20-22%** of generic exports

185 IS THE NUMBER OF COUNTRIES INDIA SUPPLIED ESSENTIAL DRUGS TO

The Indian pharmaceutical industry has primarily focused on manufacturing generic medicines, exporting bulk drugs, and supplying active pharmaceutical ingredients.

Highlighting that three Bulk Drug Parks are coming up to create a robust ecosystem for pharmaceutical manufacturing, he said inorder to promote research and development, the Centre has established six National Institutes of Pharmaceutical Education and Research and designated them as 'Institute of National Importance.

In 2019, the launch of the New Drugs and Clinical Trial Rules further contributed to the growth of the clinical trial sector, with many choosing India as a site for global clinical trials, said the health minister.

Encouraging Japanese companies to take advantage of growing opportunities in the Indian market, the health minister, the ministry stated that the pharmaceutical industry in India has been attracting investment from foreign firms.

Such collaboration on research and innovation would help enhance the domestic availability and affordability of these innovative therapeutic options.

On menu: Recces for fool-proof G20 security in J&K

AMIT MUKHERJEE @ New Delhi

MISSION KASHMIR is once again on the priority list of the Central government. Even as the threats from Pak-back terror groups mounting, the administration is leaving no stone unturned for a smooth conduct of G20 meetings, in Srinagar valley and ensuring pleasant shikara rides on Dal Lake for the visiting delegates.

With city beautification put on fast track and Kashmiri wazwan including tabak maaz, roghan josh, nadru yakhni, monge haak and goshtaba being added in the food menu for the grand G20 meet between May 22 and 24 at Sher-e-Kashmir International Convention Centre, security forces are busy conducting multiple recces, simulations and surveys in the valley to make water tight arrangements to thwart any attempts of terror attacks by Pak-backed operatives.

All forces in the valley have been working on a coordinated format and security grids are being discussed in detail on a regular basis with variations and alternate deployments plans to ensure a secure environment - for both public and visitors when the event takes place next week. Around 200 delegates, including 80 delegates from the G20 countries, are expected to attend the meeting in Srinagar.

According to sources, the agencies and forces are regularly conducting drills based on the comprehensive security grid that has been prepared. Procedures to plug defuse and neutralise all possible threats - including IEDs mounted on moving vehicles, suicide or fidayeen attacks, sticky bomb threat, drone attacks and grenade assaults - which have been part of the standard attack patterns of the terrorists in the Valley have been clearly spelt out. Counter strategies and responses have all been laid out in the standard procedures to be followed and deployed along with alternatives based on scenario mappings.

A high-level meeting was also conducted last week by the Union Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla who reviewed security preparations for the G20 tourism meet, which was attended by the top officials of the IB, state police and the commanding officers of the CRPF and BSF.

According to sources the meeting also discussed the strategic positioning to the elite commandos from the Navy and the NSG who would be deployed around the water bodies along with snipers at key surveillance points in the city.

"The sanitisation process of the key venues and locations of the spots and buildings associated with the event has already begun," a senior official from the MHA said adding, "The locations are being closely monitored by drones and infra-red eyes."

The Srinagar Airport has been upgraded with better arrangement and passenger handling provisions for the G20, a move that has also been done keeping the tourist season and the Amarnath Yatra in mind, sources in the G20 facilitation unit confirmed.

"Most importantly a security audit of the airport, its adjoining areas and the road that leads to the venue was conducted to ensure security arrangements to thwart any attempts by miscreants to disrupt normal life," the source added.

MISSION KASHMIR

Kashmiri wazwan: Food menu for the G20 meet at Sher-e-Kashmir Centre (in pic) in Srinagar will have traditional fare including tabak maaz, roghan josh, nadru yakhni, monge haak and goshtaba

The administration is leaving no stone unturned for smooth conduct of G20 meetings in Srinagar valley

Will also ensure pleasant shikara rides on Dal Lake for visiting delegates

ARRESTED FOR ASSAULT

A man was arrested on Monday for allegedly assaulting a youth for walking with two Muslim women at a local market, police said. A video surfaced online showing three or four men beating up the youth.

5 INJURED IN A LEOPARD ATTACK IN UP'S BALRAMPUR

INDIA	Max	Min		Max	Min
Ahmedabad	42	27	Mumbai	35	29
Bhopal	43	28	Panaji	32	28
Jaipur	41	30	Patna	41	27
Amritsar	40	23	Lucknow	42	27
Chennai	39	30	Port Blair	34	28
Kolkata	36	26	Imphal	23	18
Srinagar	18	08	Chandigarh	42	23

184 fishermen freed from Pakistan jails reach Vadodara

DILIP SINGH KSHATRIYA @ Ahmedabad

A total of 184 fishermen from Gujarat, who were released from a prison in Pakistan last Thursday, arrived at the Vadodara Railway station in Gujarat early on Monday.

The fishermen were caught by the Pakistan Maritime Security Agency (PMSA) nearly four years ago from the International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL) near Gujarat coast in the Arabian Sea, claiming they had crossed the notional border and entered Pakistani waters, the government said in a release.

According to the release, the fishermen were apprehended by the Pakistan Maritime Security Agency (PMSA) four years ago from the International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL) in the Arabian Sea close to Gujarat coast, for violating the fictitious border and entering Pakistani waters.

Raghavji Patel, state agriculture minister, and other local members of the ruling BJP met the fishermen at the Vadodara railway station.

Indian fishermen, who had been detained for allegedly crossing the international maritime border were freed by Pakistani officials on May 13. Last week, Pakistan freed 198 Indian fishermen in total. 184 of them are from Gujarat, three each from Andhra Pradesh, Diu, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh.

According to a statement from the Gujarat government, "Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel, Agriculture Minister Raghavji Patel and Union Minister Parsottam Rupala were in constant contact with the central government for securing the release of Gujarati fishermen."

Of 184 fisherman, 152 are from Gir Somnath region, 22 from Devbhumi Dwarka, five from Porbandar, and one each from Junagadh, Jamnagar, Kutch, Valsad, and Navsari, local officials sent the fishermen in four buses from Vadodara to their final destinations. The Gujarat administration said in the Legislative Assembly in March that as of December 2022, up to 560 Gujarati fishermen were incarcerated in Pakistan.

PUNJAB

Woman shot dead by devotee in gurdwara

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

A 33-year-old woman was shot dead at the Dukh Niwaran Sahib Gurdwara in Patiala on Sunday night by another devotee. The woman was allegedly under the influence of liquor and it said to have hurt the religious sentiment of the accused.

Sources said Parminder Kaur (33) had come to the gurdwara from Zirakpur near Chandigarh. She was allegedly consuming liquor near the sarovar (holy water tank), where the devotees saw her and objected to her drinking. When an attendant (volunteer), Sagar Malhotra, stopped her, she got agitated. She broke the bottle and hit Malhotra on his arm.

She was taken by the devotees to the manager's room, On asked about her credentials, she did not give a proper reply. The gurdwara authorities then called the police. When she was being taken to the police vehicle, a bystander took out a pistol and fired four bullets at her, killing her on the spot. The accused, identified as 32-year old Nirmaljit Singh Saini of Urban Estate in Patiala, is a property dealer and a regular visitor to the gurdwara.

Malhotra was also injured in the firing. The police recovered some tobacco packets and a liquor bottle from the spot where the incident took place,

Minister: Conversion link in terror module busted in MP

Key operative Mohd Salim was Saurabh Rajvaidya till a few yrs ago

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bhopal

PERHAPS the first Indian module of radical Islamic outfit Hizb-ut-Tahrir (HuT), which was busted by the Madhya Pradesh police's ATS through simultaneous arrest of 16 men from Bhopal, Chhindwara and Hyderabad on May 9, has a religious conversion angle too.

"MP Police is a pesticide for Jihadi cockroaches. Probe has revealed religious conversion of seven persons (arrested in the case). And those who brainwashed these men to convert to Islam, included a gym trainer, a professor, a software engineer, a software technician and a private coaching operator. They first brainwashed youngsters to change their religion. After changing religion, the same youths who converted to the other religion, convinced their wives also to embrace the same religion. We won't allow such developments in MP," state's home minister Narottam Mishra said on Monday.

Mishra's statements came a day after the state's CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan, while talking about the busting of the alleged HuT module, had maintained that 'The Kerala Story' won't be allowed to happen in MP.

As per sources privy to the investigations, 7-8 of the total 16 men arrested so far (five of 10 held from Bhopal and three of five arrested from Hyderabad) for being associated with the HuT and preparing youths for Jihad against the Hindus, had converted from Jainism and Hinduism to Islam.

According to a senior state police official, two key players of the busted module were Bhopal-based young gym trainer Yasir Khan and Hyderabad-based Mohd Salim, who till a few years ago was Saurabh Rajvaidya, the son of Berasia (Bhopal)-based Ayurvedic doctor Ashok Jain.

Rajvaidya-turned Salim was a faculty of pharmacy at a college in Hyderabad, which is reportedly run by a prominent politician. On Monday, his parents, blamed one Kamal for brainwashing Saurabh.

"He is our only son among our five children. Videos of controversial fundamentalist Islamic preacher Zakir Naik further contributed to our son's conversion to Islam, said his father Ashok Jain.

FACT FILE

Hizb-ut-Tahrir (HuT) is a radical Islamic group which is banned in 16 nations, including China, Germany, Russia, Bangladesh and Turkey.

- The outfit's stated aim is re-establishment of the Islamic caliphate to unite Muslims and implement the Sharia globally.
- 16 men allegedly associated with the outfit were arrested by MP Police's ATS from Bhopal, Chhindwara and Hyderabad with Telangana police's help on May 9.
- Arrested men were working to establish the HuT network in MP, by brainwashing youths and portraying the present governance system as "anti-Islamic."
- The arrested men practised close-combat training and shooting practice in jungles of a district adjoining Bhopal.
- The youths were being radicalised through provocative speeches by influencers from Hyderabad and other places.
- They were also trained in hi-tech information and technology tools, like using Dark Web apps Rocket Chat and Threema to communicate with each other.
- They were even conducting recce of their possible targets using drone cameras.
- A case has been registered against the accused under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act or UAPA and IPC sections.

MUMBAI DIARY

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Raj Thackeray makes U-turn, praises Cong

MNS chief Raj Thackeray, who built his political career on Hindutva issues and projecting himself as the saviour of Hindus, has changed his tune after the change in electoral fortunes for the Congress. He has praised the role played by Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's Bharat Jodo Yatra and attributed the party's sweep of Karnataka polls to it. The Yatra had gone through 24 state constituency, where Congress had won the 17 seats against 5. This hasn't gone down well with the BJP which termed his remark as his 'personal opinion'. However, Raj Thackeray said that political leaders need to appreciate even the work of another party which BJP leaders don't understand.

Patole meets Rahul to lobby against removal

After learning that he may be replaced with a 'more resourceful leader' ahead of 2024 Lok Sabha elections, the incumbent president of the Maharashtra state unit of the Congress Nana Patole rushed to Delhi to meet party leader Rahul Gandhi. Patole reportedly requested that he should not removed now as the state is likely to go for polls in just a year and should be given the opportunity to prove his mettle in the elections. He promised Gandhi to work towards improving the party's prospects in Maharashtra and Vidarbha as well.

Sharad Pawar asserts pole position in NCP

NCP chief Sharad Pawar generally avoids pitching for any individual candidate during his rallies, leaving such decisions for the party election committees and other leaders. However, surprisingly, during his recent Solapur tour, he announced the NCP candidate for the state Assembly even though the election is more than a year away. This was seen as a move on his part to assert his position within the party when it comes to identifying the candidates. It is also an indirect message to NCP aspirants who are eyeing tickets for Lok Sabha and Assembly polls that he is the boss, and not his nephew Ajit Pawar, when it comes to such decisions.

Injured PK takes a break from padyatra for two weeks

RAMASHANKAR @ Patna

POLITICAL-strategist-turned-political-activist Prashant Kishor on Monday said that he has suffered an injury in his leg which will keep him from his ongoing yatra — 'Jan Suraaj Abhiyan' in the state for about two weeks.

Talking to the media, Kishor said that he was diagnosed with injury in his left leg. Doctors advised him to take rest for sometime. They attributed the reason to covering long distance on foot during his 'Padyatra' on bad roads.

Kishor was in Bihar's Samastipur district on Monday as part of his 'Jan Suraaj Abhiyan'. He said that doctors hoped that the injury would heel in next 15 days after which he may resume his 'Padyatra'.

The Padyatra will start from the same spot where it was abandoned due to health problems. He, however, clarified that initially he had refused to halt the yatra as he was committed to complete it without any break.

Simultaneous polls in Maha? MVA decides to initiate seat-sharing talks

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @Mumbai

IN view of the possibility of simultaneous Maharashtra state assembly polls and Parliamentary elections in May 2024, Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) has decided to start seat sharing discussion for both.

Senior NCP leader Ajit Pawar said after the major defeat of BJP in Karnataka, there is talk within the BJP to advance the Maharashtra state assembly elections to May next year.

As per the election calendar, there is gap of six months between two elections.

The Lok Sabha election is scheduled for May 2024, while Maharashtra assembly elections are to be held in November 2024.

But the BJP wants to advance the state assembly elections to May 2024. In this regard, Maharashtra BJP has also given presentations to its top leadership in Delhi.

"We want to prepare for any kind of scenario, whether the state assembly is advanced or not. We do not want to see ourself caught unprepared. Therefore, Maha Vikas Aghadi leaders are of the opinion that the alliance partners of MVA should start discussions for Lok Sabha as well state assembly elections. It will help us to identify the candidates for Lok Sabha and state assembly elections," Ajit Pawar said.

He said this seat sharing issue was discussed in NCP chief Sharad Pawar called meeting at his residence.

In Maharashtra, there are 48 Lok Sabha seats and 288 state assembly members. NCP and Shiv Sena have five Lok Sabha members each, while Congress has only one.

NCP has highest 54 members while Shiv Sena 16 and Congress 44 in Maharashtra state assembly elections.

Posters outside JD (U) office project Nitish as PM candidate

RAMASHANKAR @ Patna

AHEAD of the proposed meeting of Opposition leaders in the state capital to discuss strategy for the 2024 Lok Sabha election, a poster projecting Bihar chief minister Nitish Kumar as the Opposition's Prime Ministerial candidate appeared outside the state JD (U) office in the state capital on Monday.

The poster has been erected by Andhra Pradesh JD (U) vice president Jeet Narayan Mandal. In the poster, it has been said, '2024, *Aa rahi hai janata ki sarkar*' (People's government is going to be formed in 2024). The message was accompanied by picture of Nitish along with photographs of JD (U) national president Rajiv Ranjan Singh alias Lalan Singh and other prominent party leaders.

Although Nitish has repeatedly claimed that he is not a claimant to the post of PM and also has no aspiration to hold the post. Such posters have come up in the past too, creating only confusion in the minds of people. Of late, Nitish has intensified his efforts to bring all opposition parties together to challenge BJP in the 2024 Lok Sabha election.

Pilot ultimatum: Address demands by month-end or face statewide agitation

RAJESH ASNANI @ Jaipur

SACHIN Pilot ended his five-day padyatra in Jaipur on Monday on an aggressive note by giving an ultimatum to CM Ashok Gehlot to agree to the three major demands by the month-end or face a state-wide stir. He was flanked by 15 Congress MLAs and two ministers of the Gehlot government.

Apart from a call for a high-level probe into corruption against the former Vasundhara Raje government, Pilot's two other demands include disbanding the Rajasthan Public Service Commission (RPSC) and its reconstitution, and compensation for those affected by the cancellation of government recruitment exams after paper leaks.

Speaking to his supporters, Pilot also reiterated that he should not be confined by any limits and that he does not belong to any specific caste or religion or society. He proclaimed, "I am the son of all communities and the son of Rajasthan." Critics have accused Pilot of mainly representing the Gujjar community, and questions have also been raised about his native status in Rajasthan.

Minister Hemaram Choudhary, who attended Pilot's march, retaliated against CM Gehlot's allegations that he and other pro-Pilot MLAs had taken bribes from the BJP amounting to Rs 10-20 crore to topple the Gehlot government in 2020. Minister Hema Ram Choudhary also argued that "if indeed the MLAs who had gone with Pilot in the rebellion of 2020 had taken money, CM Ashok Gehlot should take action against them."

Following the Congress's victory in the Karnataka elections, Pilot's ultimatum has presented a new challenge to the party. Speculations arose that the high command might attempt to reconcile Pilot and Gehlot before the Assembly elections.

Division in Muslim votes helped BJP in civic polls?

NAMITA BAJPAI @ Lucknow

THE Muslim voters, who had consolidated en masse in favour of the Samajwadi Party in 2022 Uttar Pradesh Assembly elections, threw up a surprise in the recently-concluded urban local body (ULB) polls by using their discretion over their support to parties including SP, Bahujan Samaj Party, Congress and Asaduddin Owaisi-led All India Majlis-E-Ittehadul Musalmeen (AIMIM).

However, the division in Muslim votes has helped the ruling BJP in registering an emphatic win in UP civic polls. In fact, the SP, which had enjoyed over 80 per cent of minority vote consolidation in its favour during the Assembly elections, taking its tally from 47 to 111, had faced a stiff challenge from AIMIM in certain constituencies dominated by minorities, especially in western UP.

In the recently concluded UP ULB polls, Muslims showed a shift from the SP towards the AIMIM, BSP and Congress, going against SP's traditional 'M-Y' (Muslim-Yadav) factor.

"Through their voting pattern, Muslims have conveyed the message that their support cannot be taken for granted. They have come out of traditional realm to vote for other parties of their choice," says Dr SK Dwivedi, former HoD, Political Science department of Lucknow University.

This change in approach not only led the BJP and ally Apna Dal (S) to have their first ever Muslim member Shafiq Ahmed Ansari in UP assembly from Suar Assembly seat in Rampur, but also helped AIMIM register its presence in state's urban local bodies.

The minority community sided with AIMIM which dealt a major blow to the Samajwadi Party at a number of places. AIMIM candidate Mohammad Anas ended up a runner-up pushing SP's Seema Pradhan, wife of senior party leader Atul Pradhan, to the third position in Meerut mayoral poll. Notably, Meerut has a respectable chunk of OBC Muslims.

Moreover, AIMIM registered victory in three Municipal Board chairperson posts in Sambhal, Sikandrarao in Hathras and Ghatampur in Kanpur Dehat. AIMIM also won two Nagar Panchayat chief's posts in Thhiriya in Bareilly and Kundarki in Moradabad.

The party won total 19 corporators' seats in Municipal Corporation of Ghaziabad, Bareilly and Firozabad, 33 seats of members in Municipal Boards and 23 Nagar Panchayat members. The performance of AIMIM is a clarion call for the Samajwadi Party with a message that Asaduddin Owaisi has been able to make forays into Muslim constituency of UP. On the other hand, the Muslim community voted in support of BSP in Saharanpur where party mayoral candidate Khatija Masood who remained the runner up rejecting SP candidate. Even in Agra, the Muslim voters preferred the BSP's Lata to Samajwadi Party candidate. Similarly, a prominent shift of Muslim votes towards Congress was witnessed Moradabad, Jhansi and Ayodhya mayoral seats.

CM Yogi's stature rises after BJP's good show in polls

Lucknow: The landslide victory of ruling BJP in recently concluded urban local body polls in UP has affirmed the mass appeal of CM Yogi Adityanath. His win is being seen by his party as the 'semi-final' to 2024 general elections and a referendum on Yogi 2.0. "The urban voters in UP have backed Yogi, his administration and his policy of zero tolerance to crime," says Dr SK Dwivedi, ex-HoD, political science department, Lucknow University. As compared to his rivals including Akhilesh Yadav, Mayawati and the Congress, Yogi's rigorous campaign across the state played a crucial role in ensuring BJP victory.

24-yr-old woman tonsured, dragged to jungle on panchayat diktat in J'khand

MUKESH RANJAN @ Ranchi

A 24-year-old tribal woman was thrashed, garlanded with shoes, her head tonsured and was left to die in the jungle by her family for refusing to marry a man of her their choice. The torture meted out to her was under the diktat issued by the Jogidih village Panchayat in Palamu. She was later rescued by the police from the Selari jungle of Tarhasi village and admitted to Medinirai Medical College and Hospital.

The woman's parents had died eight years ago and she was living with her brother and two sisters. The marriage was fixed at Manika in Latehar by her elder sister who is already married. "They were forcing me to get married. And when I refused, they beat me, tonsured me, and dragged me into the jungle after parading me with a garland of shoes in the village," said the woman.

According to villagers, the woman was to get married on April 20 but the 'baraat' returned after she refused to do so. Under pressure, she ran off to her sister in Latehar and was later brought back to the village by her cousin brothers after 20 days. The villagers were under impression that the girl was in love with someone and hence was refusing to get married.

"After her return, a Panchayat was called on Sunday. This time they were forcing her to tell her lover's name, but she kept silent. Annoyed with her silence, the panchayat then issued the diktat," told a local villager requesting anonymity. The girl then spent the night in the jungle under a 'mahua' tree and was spotted by the cattle grazers in the morning, he added.

Police said that the girl has been admitted to the hospital for medical examination and process of FIR has started on the basis of the statement recorded by her family members. FIR, however, was not registered till late in the evening while this report was being filed.

"A hunt for those involved has been started after identifying them," said Gulshan Gaurav, office in charge of Patan police station. Some scar marks have also been found on the girl's body including private parts, which is also being investigated, he added.

2 killed and three injured when shooting broke out at a motorcycle club gathering in Georgia

GLOBAL WEATHER
LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • SW: Snow • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

Beijing	28	11	TDS	Los Angeles	26	12	LC
Colombo	32	24	LC	Melbourne	14	11	HR
Dhaka	38	26	TDS	Moscow	14	4	HR
Dubai	31	22	SNY	New York	18	9	LC
Houston	23	15	SNY	Singapore	31	26	TDS
Istanbul	10	8	LC	Toronto	14	7	LC
London	14	6	LC	Washington	19	7	LC

Supporters of Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan wave flags outside the AK Party headquarters after polls closed on Sunday night | AFP

Erdogan defies pollsters, wins 1st round of election

Decisive win amid record high inflation and continuing anger over poor quake response

ANAKARA

TURKISH President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Monday emerged from his toughest election test unbowed and in a strong position to extend two decades of his Islamic-rooted rule by another five years in a historic May 28 runoff.

Erdogan secured 49.5% of the vote and Kilicdaroglu picked up 44.9%. As no candidate has won 50% of the votes, a second round of voting will be held on May 28.

The 69-year-old leader defied pollsters and his country's most dire economic crisis since the 1990s to come within a fraction of a percentage point of winning Sunday's presidential ballot.

His right-wing party also retained control of parliament through an alliance with ultra-nationalists on a drama-filled night that concluded with Erdogan delivering a victory speech from a balcony to jubilant supporters.He even won in regions hit by a calamitous February quake that claimed more than 50,000 lives — and where anger at the government's slow response to Turkey's worst disaster of modern times was seething.

"A staggering win for Erdogan," emerging markets economist Timothy Ash said in a note to clients.

The main opposition party led by Kemal Kilicdaroglu confronted the reality Monday that they were unable to beat Erdogan at one of his most vulnerable moments.

"Don't despair," Kilicdaroglu told his supporters. "We will stand up and take this election together."

Turkey's election officials Monday confirmed that there would be a second round because the remaining uncounted votes could not swing the outcome.

Nationalist candidate Sinan Ogan — a former member of a far-right party now allied with the government — had 5.2%.

Official turnout reached a record 88.9% this year.

The markets were depressed and Erdogan's supporters were ecstatic.The lira touched new lows against the dollar and stocks on the Istanbul exchange fell."We think Turkey is now at very high risk of an increase in macroeconomic instability," the Capital Economics consultancy said. *AFP*

MILITARY-BACKED PARTIES SUFFER EMBARRASSING DEFEAT IN THAI POLLS

BANGKOK

THAILAND'S main opposition parties easily bested other contenders with virtually all the votes counted from Sunday's general election, fulfilling many voters' hopes that the balloting would serve as a pivotal chance for change nine years after incumbent Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha first came to power in a 2014 coup.

With 99% of the votes counted by early Monday morning, the junior opposition Move Forward Party (MFP) had eked out a small edge over the favored Pheu Thai Party, whose leaders earlier in the night conceded they might not finish on top. The winner of Sunday's vote is not assured the right to form the new government. A joint session of the 500-seat House of Representatives will be held with the 250-member Senate in July to select the new prime minister, a process widely seen as undemocratic because the Senators were appointed by the military rather than elected but vote along with Sunday's winning lawmakers.

Sunday's voter turnout was about 39.5 million, or 75% of registered voters.

The maverick Move Forward Party captured just over 24% of the popular vote for the House of Representatives' 400 constituency seats and an almost 36% share of the vote for seats allocated in a separate nationwide ballot for the 100 members elected by proportional representation. Pheu Thai Party lagged slightly behind with just over 23% for the constituency seats and about a 27% share for the party list. The tally of constituency votes gave Move Forward 113 House seats and Pheu Thai 112, according to the Election Commission, which did not give a projection for party list seats.

Prayuth's United Thai Nation Party held the fifth spot in the constituency vote with almost 9% of the total, but it placed third in the party-preference tally with close to 12%.

The three parties were considered before the vote to the most likely to head a new government. Paetongtarn Shinawatra, 36-year-old daughter of the former billionaire populist PM Thaksin Shinawatra, had been favored in opinion polls to be chosen the country's next leader. *Agencies*

Taking on elites

MFP's stance on lese-majeste has been its most controversial policy, but the party's repeated promises of broader wholesale change may also ruffle feathers among the kingdom's powerful nexus of business, military and royalist interests

A political upstart upends status quo

Thai voters have delivered an emphatic rejection of military-backed rule at the ballot box, voting in droves for the two main opposition parties

A SLAP IN THE FACE OF ESTABLISHMENT

Written off by the establishment as backed by online-only youngsters, the Move Forward Party capitalised on its youthful base but then moved beyond it with a broad spectrum of detail-heavy policy positions that tackled the economy, inequality and the environment. MFP leader Pita Limjaroenrat appears to be in pole position to take the job of prime minister

Supporters of Move Forward Party celebrate in Bangkok on Monday | AFP

WHAT'S NEXT

Horse trading

Move Forward Party announced it will enter negotiations to form a coalition with Pheu Thai as well as 4 smaller parties

This would create a coalition with 309 seats in the 500-seat lower house. However, that might not be enough

The prime minister is chosen by both the lower house and the Senate, which has 250 members, all handpicked by the last junta

The MFP-led coalition would need 376 lower house votes to ensure senators could not block its leader Pita Limjaroenrat's PM bid

Minority govt?

Military-linked parties could try to form a minority govt, relying on Senate support to get their choice of PM through

This happened after the 2019 polls, in which Prayut Chan-O-Cha became PM at the head of a coalition despite Pheu Thai winning the most seats

Sudan military chief freezes rival's accounts

KHARTOUM

SUDAN'S military chief has ordered the freezing of all bank accounts belonging to a rival paramilitary force. The two sides have battled for weeks across Sudan, pushing the troubled country to the brink of all-out war.

The decree, issued on Sunday by General Abdel Fattah Burhan, will target the official accounts of the Rapid Support Forces in Sudanese bank, as well as the accounts of all companies belonging to the group, the state news agency SUNA reported. It remains unclear what immediate effect the freezing would have on the RSF and how Burhan's orders are to be enforced.

Over the past decade, the paramilitary force has amassed great wealth through the gradual acquisition of Sudanese financial institutions and gold reserves. Burhan on Sunday replaced Sudan's Central Bank governor and on Monday, he removed the country's police chief and sacked two ambassadors at the Foreign Ministry.

Since mid-April, the Sudanese army, led by Burhan, and the RSF have been locked in a power struggle that has forced thousands to flee to neighboring countries. *AFP*

Fund-starved Vice Media files for bankruptcy

NEW YORK

VICE Media, once the darling of the digital news media world, said on Monday it had filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection to facilitate its sale.

Millennial-focused Vice, known for its edgy news and lifestyle content, had been among the rising stars of a new breed of digital media firms but struggled as advertising revenues shrank.

Vice said it had agreed to the terms of an asset purchase agreement with a consortium of its lenders which includes Fortress Investment Group, Soros Fund Management and Monroe Capital.

The consortium had submitted a credit bid of about $225 million "for substantially all of the Company's assets, in addition to the assumption of significant liabilities upon closing," Vice said.

EXPRESS READ

Canadian man gets 9-yr jail PIO's murder

Toronto: A Canadian man has been sentenced to nine years in prison for the 2021 killing of a 23-year-old Sikh from India in the country's Nova Scotia province, media reports said.Prabhjot Singh Katri was stabbed to death by 21-year-old Cameron James Prosper in an unprovoked attack. A Nova Scotia judge on Friday sentenced Prosper to nine years in jail for manslaughter, *The Global News* reported

26 people killed in Mexico highway crash

Mexico City: A fiery highway crash involving a passenger van and a freight truck killed 26 people in northern Mexico on Sunday. Prosecutors and police in the northern state of Tamaulipas said the death toll was a preliminary count, because of the sheer volume of the wreckage. The cab that had been pulling the freight trailer was not found, suggesting the driver might have uncoupled it and fled

Mocha: Seawater traps 1,000 in western Myanmar

YANGON

RESCUERS early Monday evacuated about 1,000 people trapped by seawater 3.6 meters deep along western Myanmar's coast after a powerful cyclone injured hundreds and cut off communications. Damage and six deaths have been reported, but the true impact was not yet clear in one of Asia's least developed countries.

Strong winds injured more than 700 of about 20,000 people who were sheltering in sturdier buildings on the highlands of Sittwe township such as monasteries, pagodas and schools, according to a leader of the Rakhine Youths Philanthropic Association in Sittwe. *AP*

BEFORE THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL -II, BENGALURU
No. 1, Telephone House, Rajbhavan Road, Bangalore – 560 001.
O.A. No.183 / 2020
Between:Canara Bank ...Applicant
And:
Mr. Siddamutha Naik and Another ...Defendants

SUMMONS TO DEFENDANT No. 1 UNDER RULE 23(8) OF THE D R T (PROCEDURE) RULES 1993

To:
Mr. Siddamutha Naik, S/o. Sri. Bheema Naik, No.142/147, Sarabande Palya, BSK 2nd Stage, Bengaluru - 560082 Mobile Nos. 9901924973/9738966288.
Whereas, the above - named applicant has instituted an application under Sec.19 of the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Instituions Act, 1993 against you for recovery of sum of mentioned therein together with current and future interest and for other relief's. You are hereby directed to appear before the Tribunal in person or through an Advocate or an authorised agent duly instructed to show cause within 30 days from the date of publication or on **23-08-2023 at 10:30 A.M.** as to why the relief prayed for should not be granted. Take notice that in case of default, the application will be heard and determined in your absence.
Given under my hand the seal of this Tribunal on this **10st day of April 2023 at Bangalore.**
By order of the Tribunal
Sd/- Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal -II Bengaluru.

BANK OF MAHARASHTRA Zonal Office :
15, Police Station Road Basavangudi Bengaluru - 560 004
TELE : 080 - 46561220 | **e-mail :** legal_ban@mahabank.co.in
Head Office: Lokmangal,1501, Shivajinagar, Pune-5

POSSESSION NOTICE
For Immovable property [Appendix IV under the Act-Rule-8(1)]
WHEREAS,
The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Bank of Maharashtra under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, and in exercise of the powers conferred under Sub-Section (12) of Section 13 read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rule, 2002, issued a Demand Notice dated 01.03.2023 calling upon **the borrower, Mrs. Jyothi Mahimynathan, Prop. of M/s. V M Construction and the guarantors, Mr. Mahimynathan & Mr. Sathya Mahimynathan,** to repay amount aggregating **Rs.50,73,615.99 (Rupees Fifty Lakh Seventy Three Thousand Six Hundred Fifteen and Ninety Nine Paise Only)** plus unapplied interest thereon as mentioned in the demand notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice. The notice was sent through Regd. Post AD.
The borrower as well as guarantors having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower as well as guarantor and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the properties described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under section 13 (4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules **on this 12th day of May of the year 2023.**
The borrower as well as guarantors in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties and any dealings with the properties will be subject to the charge of Bank of Maharashtra, **Kormangala Branch** for an amount hereinabove mentioned.
The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of Sub-Section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.
The details of the properties mortgaged to the Bank and taken possession by the Bank are as follows:
All that piece and parcel of residential property (land & building) bearing Old No.1, New Corporation No.1, measuring East to West 22 ft. & North to South 58 ft. i.e. total admeasuring area 1276 sq. ft. lying and situated at 3rd Main Road, Chikka Adugidi Extension, Ward No.66, BBMP, Bengaluru and the property is butted and **bounded as under- On or towards North :** By Property belongs to Babu. **On or towards South :** By Road. **On or towards East :** By Property belongs to V. Harish Kumar. **On or towards West :** By remaining portion of the same property.
Sd/-
Date: 12/05/2023 **Asstt. General Manager & Authorized Officer**
Place: Bangalore **Bank of Maharashtra, Bangalore Zone**

PUBLIC NOTICE
General public are hereby informing that, my clients are intending to purchase the schedule property from **Sri.Arnold Edward King** S/o Late Arnold H.King, aged about 70 years, Doddapyalagurki Gate, Kasaba Hobli, NH-7, Chikkaballapura Taluk and District, Karnataka – 562 104. Aadhar No.5881 8418 2300. PAN No.AJPPA4616A.
Sri.Arnold Edward King claims to have acquired title to the schedule property from the wife and children of Late Chandrabanu Ambedkar under a registered sale deed dated 12.07.2007, which has been registered in the office of the Sub-Registrar as document No.CKB-1-01373/2007-08, Book No.1, stored in CD No. CKBD23, dated 12.07.2007.
Any persons having any right, title, interest, claims and objections of whatsoever either in respect of the schedule property or towards its transaction, then they can file their objections along with all necessary documents to the undermentioned within **15 Days** from the date of this notice. Failing which, it is deemed that there are no objections of whatsoever from anyone in dealing with the schedule property.
SCHEDULE PROPERTY
All that piece and parcel of land bearing Sy.No.68, measuring 2 Acres 01 Gunta, forming part of southern portion of the entire land, situated at Guvvalakanahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Chikkaballapura Taluk and District and bounded on:
East by : Bangalore-Bellary Road (NH-7),
West by : Land bearing Sy.No.67,
North by : Remaining land in Sy.No.68,
South by : Land bearing Sy.No.66.
SRI.A.VISHWANATHA, ADVOCATE
Koorlappa Complex, Kogilu Main Road, Maruthinagar, Yelahanka, Bangalore-560 064. Mob: 9880295744.
Bangalore Date: 15.05.2023.

JANA SMALL FINANCE BANK
(A scheduled commercial bank)
Registered Office: The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No.10/1, 11/2 & 12/2B, Off Domlur, Koramangla Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore-560071.

NOTICE OF SALE THROUGH PRIVATE TREATY

SALE OF IMMOVABLE ASSETS CHARGED TO THE BANK UNDER THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT 2002. (SARFAESI ACT)

The undersigned as Authorized Officer of **Jana Small Finance Bank Ltd.,** has taken over **Physical Possession** of the schedule property under the SARFAESI Act. The Authorized Officer of **M/s. Jana Small Finance Bank Ltd.,** had already conducted multiple public auctions for selling the property, but they turned out to be unsuccessful as no bids were received. Hence please be informed that if the total outstanding dues in the aforesaid loan account are not paid within **Fifteen (15) Days** from the date of this publication of this notice, then the Authorized officer will proceed for sale via private treaty of the property as stated below.
Public at large is informed that the secured property as mentioned in the Schedule are available for sale through Private Treaty, as per the terms agreeable to the Bank for realization of Bank's dues on **"AS IS WHERE IS BASIS"** and **"AS IS WHAT IS BASIS".**
Standard terms & conditions for sale of property through Private Treaty are as under:
1. Sale through Private Treaty will be on **"AS IS WHERE IS BASIS"** and **"AS IS WHAT IS BASIS".**
2. The purchaser will be required to deposit **25%** of the sale consideration on the next working day of receipt of Bank's acceptance of offer for purchase of property and the remaining amount within **15 days** thereafter.
3. The purchaser has to deposit 10% of the offered amount along with application which will be adjusted against 25% of the deposit to be made as per clause (2) above.
4. Failure to remit the amount as required under clause (2) above, will cause forfeiture of amount already paid including 10% of the amount paid along with application.
5. In case of non-acceptance of offer of purchase by the Bank, the amount of 10% paid along with the application will be refunded without any interest.
6. The purchaser should conduct due diligence on all aspects related to the property (under sale through private treaty) to his satisfaction. The purchaser shall not be entitled to make any claim against the Authorized Officer/ Secured Creditor in this regard at a later date.
7. The Bank reserves the right to reject any offer of purchase without assigning any reason.
8. In case of more than one offer, the Bank will accept the highest offer.
9. The interested parties may contact the Authorized Officer for further details/ clarifications and for submitting their application.
10. The purchaser has to bear all stamp duty, registration fee, and other expenses, taxes, duties, society dues in respect of purchase of the property.
11. Sale shall be in accordance with the provisions of SARFAESI Act/ Rules.

SCHEDULE

Sr. No.	Loan Account Number	Name of Borrower/ Co-borrowers	Amount as per 13(2) Demand Notice under SARFAESI Act.	Reserve price for private treaty	Description of Secured Assets/ Immovable Properties
1	46459440000410	1) R. Chand Pasha, 2) Rajiya Begum S. H.	**Rs.5,08,912.07** (Rupees Five Lakh Eight Thousand Nine Hundred Twelve and Seven paise) **as of 29.04.2022**	**Rs. 5,00,000/-** (Rupees Five Lakh Only)	**Details of Secured Assets:** All that piece and parcel of the Property bearing No.9/1/10, PID No.9/1/10, Sl. No.6/A/7, situated at Tharabahalli Village, Nandagudi Hobali, Hosakote Taluk, Bangalore Rural District. **East by:** Property belongsto Shafee, **West by:** Property belongs to R. Mustaffa, **North by:** Road, **South by:** Property belongs to Manjunath. Measuring East to West 24 ½ feet and North to South 75 feet.

The aforesaid Borrower's/ Co-borrower's attention is invited to provisions of section 13(8) of SARFAESI Act for redemption of secured assets mentioned hereinabove by tendering the aforementioned outstanding dues together with all costs, charges and expenses incurred by the bank before the sale of secured assets.
Correspondence Address: Mr. B Sreejith (Mob No. 8050149617), email: babu.sreejith@janabank.com, Mr. Ranjan Naik (9590858249), email: ranjan.naik@janabank.com. Jana Small Finance Bank Limited, (formerly known as M/s. Janalakshmi Financial Services Pvt. Ltd.), having Office The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No.10/1, 11/2 & 12/2B, Off Domlur, Koramangala Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore -560071.
Date: 16.05.2023, Place: Bangalore Rural **Sd/- Authorized Officer, Jana Small Finance Bank Limited**

PUBLIC NOTICE
The General public is hereby informed that my client is intending to purchase the below mentioned schedule property from its owners Sri Y.V. Anil Kumar S/o. Late. Y.V. Venkatappa and Smt. M. Leelavathi W/o. Sri. Y. V Anil Kumar R/at. No.9/1, 14th Cross, Cubbonpet, Bangalore 560002.
Anybody having any objection, claim/s, interest, dispute for the above intended sale transaction may contact the undersigned with the documentary proof substantiating their objections / claims / details of dispute/s within **ten (10) days** from the date of this publication, failing which, my client will proceed to complete the sale transaction with the above owner as if there are no third party claims/ objections / disputes in respect of the schedule property and thereafter no claims / objections / disputes will be entertained.
SCHEDULE PROPERTY
All the piece and parcel of Office Unit bearing No. D-06, BBMP No. 2/45, PID No. 48-74-2/45 on the 6th floor in building known as "Solus" with undivided built up area of 931.71 sq feet or Super built area 1245 sq feet together with undivided area of 364.09 square feet in lands in property No.2, 1st Cross, J.C Road, Bangalore bounded on East by: Open space forming part of property no.2 and thereafter property of Rajendra Jain, West by: Common passage and thereafter office unit No.C-06, North by: Office unit No. B -06, South by : Lifts and lift lobby along with car parking No.66 in upper basement.
Hamsa G & Madhukar S
Advocates
No. 13, Ground Floor, Anu Arcade, Outer ring road, Near Hoysala Circle, Kengeri Satellite town, Bengaluru - 560060.

DBS
Registered Office: DBS Bank India Limited, Baba Kharak Singh Marg, Connaught Place, New Delhi -110001, www.dbs.com/in
For Correspondence : DBS Bank India Limited, R M G -Special Assets Management #460/2, PTK Complex, 8th B Main, Jayanagar 4th Block, Bengaluru–560011, 080 26644016

DEMAND NOTICE
[Under section 13(2) of Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (hereinafter called "Act")].
As the Demand Notice sent to the following borrowers and Guarantors for repayment of dues under Registered Post with Acknowledgement Due was returned un-served / not acknowledged, this notice is now being published. The Bank hereby call upon you u/s 13(2) of the Act by issuing this notice to discharge in full, your liabilities stated hereunder to the Bank within 60 days from the date of receipt of this notice.

Borrower/ Proprietor/ Guarantor	1) Aditi Incorp, No. 126, Satyanarayana Layout, J. C. Nagar, Mahalaxmipura Layout, Bengaluru – 560086, represented by its proprietor (2) Sri Shubhakar Bhuvanesh Rao, (Proprietor and Mortgagor), S/o Sri N. Bhuvanesh Rao, # F1, 12/1, Olety Mansion, 2nd Main Road, 4th Cross, Near Moodalapalya Circle, SVG Nagar, Amarajyothinagar, Nagarbhavi, Bengaluru – 560072 and guarantor (3) Smt. Bharathi S., W/o Sri Shubhakar Bhuvanesh Rao, # F1, 12/1, Olety Mansion, 2nd Main Road, 4th Cross, Near Moodalapalya Circle, SVG Nagar, Amarajyothinagar, Nagarbhavi, Bengaluru - 560072.
Date of NPA	**31 Oct 2022**
Amount Outstanding	**₹91,94,723.93** (Rupees ninety-one lac ninety-four thousand seven hundred twenty-three and paise ninety-three only) as on 31 Jan 2023 and interest from 01 Feb 2023
Facility	WC Facility: account No: 827210139342 Principal Outstanding: ₹ 75,95,955.19, Interest outstanding: ₹ 3,57,577.35 ECLGS Facility: account No:827320163637 Principal Outstanding: ₹ 11,66,666.72, Interest outstanding:₹ 74,524.67
Limit	WC Facility : ₹76,00,000-00 on 29 Nov 2018, ECLGS Facility : ₹15,00,000-00 on 13 Nov 2020

Demand Notice sent on 28 Apr 2023
Description of secured asset:
Residential property # Flat no. S1, 2nd floor, Site No. 312, in layout formed by Bank Officers and Officials House Building Co-operative Society Limited vide BDA Resolution No. 480/92, dated 07.11.1992 measuring East and West 30 feet and North and South 40 feet in all 133.33 Sq Yards, situated at Doddakallasandra and Raghuvanahalli Village, 1st Stage, Kanakpura Main Road, Uttarahalli Hobli, Shriganga, Bangalore South Taluk, now comes under BBMP limits Ward no 197, Sub Range, Bangalore - 560062. Extent 1000 Sq ft SBA and 350 Sq ft UDR in the property bearing Site no 312, standing in the name of Sri Shubhakar Bhuvanesh Rao, Bound: On the East by : Site No. 313, On the West by : Site No. 311, On the North by : Road, On the South By : Site No. 288.
Please take note of the fact that if you fail to repay to the bank the aforesaid sum along with other charges thereon together with further interest and incidental expenses and costs as stated above in terms of this notice under section 13(2) of the Act, the bank will exercise all or any of the rights detailed under sub-section (4) of Section 13.
The borrowers / guarantors' attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.
This notice is without prejudice to the Bank's right to initiate such other actions or legal proceedings, as it deems necessary under any other applicable provisions of Law.
Place : Bengaluru Authorised Officer,
Date : 16 May 2023 DBS Bank India Limted, RMG - SAM, Bengaluru

Vi likely to raise funds, launch 5G in June

Discussion to raise funds is in final stage, telco to deploy 5G network in same month after receiving fund

RAKESH KUMAR @ New Delhi

EVEN as people were ready to write the epitaph of Vodafone Idea (Vi) in absence of funding, the country's third-largest telecom company has managed to tie up with banks for funds.

A senior official of the Department of Telecommunication (DoT) told this newspaper that Vi is likely to complete fundraising in June 2023, and also launch its 5G services during the month.

The official said the discussion to raise funds is in the final stage and it may complete somewhere in June 2023.

"I think Vodafone Idea's discussion with the banks to raise funds is positive. The telecom service provider will announce its fundraising next month. As the company has maintained that it would start deploying 5G network once funding is in place, I am expecting the company to start deploying 5G in June itself," said the official.

ON A ROLL

Company has cleared licence fee of third quarter, says the official

Vodafone Idea promoters invested an amount of ₹4,900 crore last year

Debt-laden telco has been trying to raise funds for more than 2 YEARS but failed

VIL attributed its inability to invest in 5G rollout to delay by the government in converting interest dues into equity

Company likely to launch its 5G network after raising fund in June

In Feb, govt had agreed to convert `16,133 cr interest dues into equity

The official also said the company has cleared the licence fee of the third quarter, and also made part payment for the fourth quarter.

The debt-laden telecom service provider has been trying to raise funds from the market for more than two years, but failed to get any.

The question sent to the company about its funding remained unanswered by the time of the press.

The promoters of Vi had invested ₹4,900 crore in the company last year.

The company in the past has attributed its inability to invest in 5G rollout to delay by the government in converting interest dues into equity.

In February 2023, the government agreed to convert ₹16,133 crore interest dues related to deferred adjusted gross revenue (AGR) and spectrum usage charge (SUC) payments into equity.

Since then the company has been in discussions with the banks to raise funds, and invest in its network.

Recently, telecom secretary K Rajaraman reportedly said the telco is expected to unveil a revival plan within a month. Rajaramanalso said the return of Aditya Birla group Chairman Kumar Mangalam Birla to the board of the telecom service provider is a positive step for the company.

While Reliance Jio and Bharti Airtel have been deploying 5G in the country since last October, Vi is yet to reveal its 5G plans.

In February 2023, Vi CEO Akshaya Moondra maintained that though the company is in talks with vendors for 5G rollout plans, there would be no 5G until funding is in place.

According to media reports, Finland's Nokia is in initial talks with Vi on 5G equipment supplies.

"The government wants Vodafone Idea to survive in in the country or it will lead to duopoly in the telecom market, which is not good for the consumer," said the official.

'Russia doesn't have reserves in special vostro accounts'

MONIKA YADAV @ New Delhi

RUSSIA doesn't have any reserves in the special Vostro accounts, said additional secretary & director general at Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), Ministry of Commerce and Trade, on Monday.

"Under the special vostro account, Russia doesn't have any reserves but the reserve is only on account of defence procurement and sales," the official said while refusing to give the details about the quantum of reserve. Recently, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavron had said that Russia has accumulated billions of rupees in Indian banks which it cannot utilize.

On this issue, Sarangi added that the Department of Economic Affairs and Ministry of Defence are working on the mechanism to deal with that. In July last year, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had allowed trade settlement in local currency between India and other countries. Under this mechanism, the traders importing from foreign countries can pay in rupee, which would be credited in the special Vostro accounts of the correspondent bank of the partner country.

> **Under the special vostro account, Russia doesn't have any reserves but the reserve is only on account of defense procurement and sales**
>
> Santosh K Sarangi, additional secretary & director general, DGFT

It was expected that Russia would accept rupee payments for its crude oil supplies to the country. However, Russia has not agreed to take rupee payments for its oil exports to India as it does not know what to do with the rupee balance in the Vostro account.

India's imports from Russia are more than its exports, especially since last year, when India started buying cheap crude from the Eurasian nation. Its imports surged to $51.3 billion until April 5 from $10.6 billion in the corresponding period of last year. Meanwhile, exports from India in the same period fell marginally to $3.43 billion from $3.61 billion in the previous year.

Eighten countries have opened special rupee Vostro accounts with India for facilitating trade in rupee. In addition, the official also said commerce ministry is in talks with various ministries and stakeholders to bring out the e-commerce policy with ecommerce rules under the consumer protection act.

DIFFERING VIEW

Govt, Sebi clarify stand on Adani probe goof-up

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU@ Mumbai

AFTER the Securities and Exchange Board of India's (Sebi) statement in the Supreme Court that it is not investigating Adani since 2016 caused outrage, the capital market regulator said the probe focused on irregularities related to global depository receipts (GDRs).

In a rejoinder affidavit, Sebi denied claims it had been investigating Adani Group firms since 2016. "The allegation that Sebi is investigating Adani since 2016 is factually baseless. The reliance sought to be placed on the investigation pertaining to GDRs is wholly misplaced," said the affidavit. As per the sources, the investigation in 2016 was related to irregularities in the issuance of GDRs by 51 companies. No Adani firm was among these companies which were under the radar of Sebi investigation. "The probe mentioned in the affidavit was mainly focused on the irregularities in the issuances of GDRs by 51 companies and none of the Adani Group firms was among these entities," said a source.

Finance ministry on Monday said it stands by its July 2021 written reply in Parliament that had stated Sebi was investigating some Adani group firms. After Sebi filed a fresh affidavit with the Supreme Court to strengthen its case for a six-month extension of deadline to complete the probing allegations of fraud and money laundering against Adani Group, Congress and other opposition parties cited the ministry's July 2021 replies in Parliament to ask who was misleading. This came in response to Congress spokesperson Jairam Ramesh posting a screenshot of the written reply made by Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary on July 19, 2021.

Exports plunge to six-month low of $34.7 bn, imports dip 14% in April

MONIKA YADAV @ New Delhi

INDIA'S exports fell by 12.7% to six-month low of $34.66 billion in April 2023, commerce ministry data showed on Monday.

Meanwhile, imports also dipped by 14% on-year to $49.9 billion during the same period. Interestingly, the country's trade deficit touched a 20-month low to $15.24 billion from $18.35 billion an year ago, the data showed. According to a ministry official, exports slid majorly because of fall in commodity prices and lukewarm demand in key markets.

"For the next two to three months, the demand doesn't look very optimistic. We are seeing slowdown, especially in the US and the Europe. Things may change September onwards," said Santosh Kumar Sarangi, Director General and Additional Secretary with the Director General of Foreign Trade(DGFT) said. He further added that the sectors which may see slowdown include gems and jewellery, apparel and garments segment, petroleum products because of low prices, some engineering products. He further added that the opening up of Chinese economy will give impetus to global exports by the month of August. In addition to above, Sarangi said, "The world trade organization (WTO) has revised its global trade growth from 1% to 1.7%. If demand improves from EU and US by August or so, it might give a boost to our exports."

He further stated that in April, the total trade deficit is just $1.38 billion, the lowest in 21 months. It is to be noted that this figure also takes into account estimated services trade during April. Actual services trade data is released later by the Reserve Bank of India.

On UK-India free trade agreement (FTA), Sarangi said that the tenth round of talks will take place from 5th to 9th June in the national capital. He added that both the countries are trying to conclude the deal as early as possible and the trade negotiations would not get affected by the elections in both the countries.

INDIA'S FOREIGN TRADE IN APRIL

	April 2023	April 2022
MERCHANDISE		
Exports	34.66	39.7
Imports	49.9	58.06
SERVICES		
Exports	30.36	24.05
Imports	16.5	14.06
OVERALL TRADE (MERCHANDISE +SERVICES)		
Exports	65.02	63.75
Imports	66.4	72.11
Trade balance	-1.38	-8.37

FIGS IN $BN

WPI inflation declines to -0.92% in April

BYLINE @ chennai

WHOLESALE inflation slid into negative territory after a gap of 32 months as Wholesale Price Index (WPI) saw a 0.92% year-on-year (YoY) decline. The fall was largely due to high base effect and decline in prices of manufactured products, which have a cumulative weight of 64.23% in the WPI.

"Decline in the rate of inflation in April 2023 is primarily contributed by fall in prices of basic metals, food products, mineral oils, textiles, non-food articles, chemical & chemical products, rubber & plastic products and paper & paper products," says a statement by the Ministry of Commerce and Trade. WPI in April 2022 was 15.38%, while in March 2023 it was 1.34%. Manufactured product category saw an overall YoY fall of -2.42% as against a fall of 0.77% in March. The YoY inflation based on WPI Food Index fell from 2.32% in March 2023 to 0.17% in April 2023. Fuel and power category remained static as it registered a 0.93% rise in April as against 8.96% in March.

EXPRESS READ

Crypto platform Mudrex expands into Europe

NEW DELHI: Crypto investing platform Mudrex, which is backed by Y-Combinator, has announced its expansion into Europe. The company has obtained registration as a 'Virtual Asset Provider' allowing it to operate as a registered broker dealer and crypto custodian within the EU. Mudrex launched its product, 'Coin Sets' in Italy. It is said that 8% of Italians have exposure to cryptocurrency and are adopting a diversification strategy. *ENS*

NSE net profit rises 31% to ₹2,067 crore

New Delhi: The National Stock Exchange (NSE) on Monday reported a 31% jump in consolidated net profit at ₹2,067 crore for the three months ended March. In comparison, the exchange had posted a net profit of ₹1,580 crore in the year-ago period, NSE said in a statement. The consolidated income from operations stood at ₹3,453 crore for the fourth quarter of the last fiscal, up 31 per cent from the year-ago period. *ENS*

SpiceJet subsidiary to raise $100 million from UK's SRAM & MRAM Group

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU@ New Delhi

LOW-COST carrier SpiceJet on Monday said its subsidiary SpiceExpress will receive $100 million investment from a UK-based group- SRAM & MRAM Group.

The Group, headed by Sailesh Lachu Hiranandani, in December last year had announced that they will invest ₹2 lakh crore in Odisha to set up a semiconductor unit in the state.

Founded in 1995, SRAM & MRAM Group claims it has a footprint in five continents, with over 35 locations, over 300 employees with a sales turnaround of $800 million during FY17-18. Its latest financials could not be found on their website. The UK-based group claims it has branch offices in Cambodia, South Africa, Indonesia, Malaysia, Bahrain, Georgia, India and Bangladesh. Its business interest ranges from technology, agriculture to hospitality, said Sailesh Lachu Hiranandani, Chairman, SRAM & MRAM Group, "We see excellent growth opportunities in the logistics and cargo space in India. We are confident that SpiceXpress will contribute to India's growth story. In a short time since its inception, the company has shown exceptional growth in the nascent air cargo market and we see a tremendous potential for the company in India's fast growing cargo and logistics market."

NCLAT order on Go First lessors' petitions on May 22

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU@ New Delhi

THE near-term fate of the aircraft lessors of Go First will be decided in a week's time as the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) will pass its order on May 22 on petitions filed by three lessors against the airline's voluntary insolvency resolution proceedings.

A two-member bench, headed by Chairperson Justice Ashok Bhushan, on Monday reserved its order after hearing on the three petitions. The bench asked the parties to submit additional documents, if any, in next 48 hours. The appellate tribunal was hearing a batch of petitions filed by SMBC Aviation Capital Ltd, GY Aviation and SFV Aircraft Holdings.

All three lessors have leased out nearly 21 aircraft to Go First. So far this month, several lessors have approached DGCA for deregistration and repossession of Go First's 45 planes. The NCLT had last week admitted Go First's plea for voluntary insolvency.

Outgoing Puma India head's start-up raises ₹430 cr

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ Bengaluru

Outgoing managing director of PUMA India and South East Asia Abhishek Ganguly, along with two other outgoing executives from PUMA India, have launched a sportswear and athleisure solutions platform called Agilitas Sports.

They have raised ₹430 crore ($52 bn). Convergent Finance has invested ₹400 crore and the rest came from individual investors.

Abhishek Ganguly, Founder of Agilitas Sports, said, "Agilitas Sports aims to disrupt and redefine the sportswear industry by seamlessly integrating innovation and technology across the product value chain from the factory floor to the retail shelf." Currently, sports footwear accounts for 16% of the overall footwear market and is the fastest-growing segment. Its share is trending towards the global averages of over 30% in emerging markets and 50% in mature markets, according to reports. The current total footwear market of approximately Rs 110 billion is projected to grow at about 13% CAGR up to 2030.

The start-up's other partners are Atul Bajaj, the outgoing Executive Director – Sales and Operations of PUMA India, and Amit Prabhu, the outgoing Chief Financial Officer of PUMA India.

CRED-owned Happay fires over 150 employees in restructuring exercise

Offers 3 months' salary, benefits

Though CRED didn't comment on layoffs, it is said that they have eliminated roles across marketing, product and operations, and that they have also been offered three months' salary as severance, apart from other benefits

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU @ Bengaluru

AS part of its restructuring exercise, Kunal Shah's CRED-owned Happay is said to have fired 35% of its workforce or over 150 employees. Happay is a business-to-business expense management platform, which was acquired by Cred in a cash-and-stock deal worth over $180 million in 2021.

Though CRED didn't comment on layoffs, it is said that they have eliminated roles across marketing, product and operations, and that they have also been offered three months' salary as severance, apart from other benefits. Founded by Anshul Rai and Varun Rathi in 2012, its solutions include prepaid cards for business expenses, travel and expenses, among others. Last year, it launched the World Travel Card. The company's post money valuation in 2019 was $56.2 million, according to Tracxn. Its annual revenue as on December 31, 2022, stood at $6.47 million. CRED posted a ₹1,279 crore loss in FY22 compared to ₹524 crore in FY21. It posted revenue of ₹422.6 crore in FY22 compared to ₹95.6 crore in the year-ago period.

Many start-ups have been laying off employees due to macroeconomic challenges and overall slowdown. Recently, online edtech company Cuemath, backed by Sequoia Capital, has fired 100 employees. After laying off 45 employees recently, Teachmint has laid off another 70. Teachmint had said some roles have been impacted as we work on increasing structural efficiencies in our operations.

Gross direct premium of insurance industry to cross ₹3L cr by FY25: ICRA

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ Mumbai

INSURANCE industry's gross direct premium income (GDPI) is likely to exceed ₹3 lakh crore by financial year 2024-25 (FY25) as against ₹2.4 lakh crore at the end of March 2023, according to a report released by ICRA.

Private insurers' combined ratio will improve and return on equity (RoE) is expected at 11.2-12.8% in FY24 and 12.5-13.9% in FY25, ICRA said in a report. Most PSU insurers are expected to witness high combined ratio resulting in net losses, though it will be lower compared to last few years, said the investment information and credit rating agency.

The industry's GDPI saw a sharp 17.2%year-on-year (YoY) growth in FY23 to ₹2.4 lakh crore with the resumption of economic activity after the waning of Covid-19 infections.

In absolute terms, the report said the incremental growth in the GDPI was at an all-time high of ₹35,000 crore in FY23 higher than ₹20,000 crore in FY22 and ₹7,000 crore in FY21.

The health segment witnessed the sharpest growth, accounting for 48-50% of the incremental GDPI in FY23, driven by rising awareness regarding health insurance.

The motor segment, which was subdued due to the pandemic-related lockdowns, also picked up pace, it said.

The net claims ratio improved with the normalisation of health claims, partially offset by higher claims in the motor segment with increased vehicle movement, post the pandemic, it said. Though the claims ratio improved, the underwriting losses of public sector insurers increased because of wage revision and payment of associated arrears, it said.

World No 1 Alcaraz knocked out of Italian Open

World No 1 Carlos Alcaraz suffered a shock third round defeat in the Italian Open at the hands of unheralded Hungarian Fabian Marozsan, losing 6-3, 7-6 (4) on Monday. The 20-year-old Spaniard had come into the tournament on the back of wins in Barcelona and Madrid but was outplayed by Marozsan, who is ranked 135th in the world.

Post IPL, no rest before massive Test

With next to no preparation time between T20 league and WTC Finals, recovery could be an issue for Rohit & Co

GOMESH S @ Chennai

ON the night of March 22, 2023, after the loss against Australia in the third and final ODI at the MA Chidambaram Stadium in Chennai, Indian skipper Rohit Sharma was posed with a familiar question. Given the number of injury concerns the national team has, will WTC final-bound players be rested during the Indian Premier League (IPL)?

Sharma, back then, had made it clear that the franchises will have the last word as they "own the players". While saying that players could opt out, Sharma had indicated that he was not expecting it to happen. One of the things they probably could have hoped was that should some teams get eliminated sooner, the players of those teams in the WTC squad could get some relief. Cut to May 15, 2023, the tournament has gone in the opposite direction.

After the game between Gujarat Titans and Sunrisers Hyderabad, the play-off spots are still open for most teams; at least seven have a mathematical chance of qualification. The third and fourth places are likely to be decided in the last round of league games. As a result — barring Axar Patel, Mukesh Kumar (reserves), Jaydev Unadkat (in the National Cricket Academy racing against the clock) and Cheteshwar Pujara (already in England playing county cricket) — the majority are likely to stay till the end.

PLAYERS & WHICH TEAM THEY PLAY/ WHERE THEY ARE

Rohit(MI), Gill(GT), Pujara (County), Kohli(RCB), Rahane (CSK), Bharat (GT), Ashwin (RR), Jadeja (CSK), Shami(GT), Siraj(RCB), Umesh(KKR), Thakur(KKR), Axar(DC), Unadkat(NCA), Kishan (MI); **Reserves:** Gaikwad(CSK), Mukesh(DC), SKY(MI).

The first set of players from the eliminated teams are likely to travel to England on May 23. However, depending on which teams qualify for play-offs, there is a high chance that at least half the squad will remain till the final. The bottomline is that, as a group, the Indian team is likely to have a week at best before they take to the field against Australia at The Oval. Meanwhile, off the 17-member preliminary Australian squad, only four are a part of the IPL. While some are playing county cricket, others are currently a part of the three-day camp in Brisbane. They, too, are set to travel to England by the end of next week.

For India to get ready, physically and mentally, for the all-important clash, there are a number of factors they will have to deal with starting from the switch in formats, cricketing conditions, weather, fatigue and more. Former chief selector MSK Prasad believes that the biggest challenge for batters would be adapting to the format mentally, cutting down the shots they have been playing in IPL. "The temptation to play those big shots, to carry on what they have done here. With white ball, you just have to hit through the line, don't bother about swing which is contrary to this (UK). They might find it a little tempting to go for the shots even in those conditions. You will have to contain yourself, restrict those shots and play according to situations," said Prasad.

Meanwhile, the form of some of the batters in the IPL, like Sharma, has not been upto the mark. Prasad calls it a blessing in disguise as they could put it behind immediately after the league, if their team doesn't qualify. "Whether it is Virat (Kohli) or Rohit or Ajinkya (Rahane) they have done this in the past... Maybe for a younger player that would be difficult, for someone like Virat, Rohit, it is not a big issue," he said.

Prasad went ahead and said that the team management could have and probably still consider taking Hardik Pandya. "If I am in that position, I will convince him to play. Physically. mentally, technically and tactically he is in fantastic shape. Such people will bring in only positive energy. I don't think anyone is as good shape as Hardik is today. They have to try and see as it is a one off game. He is in the best of the shape compared to any other Test cricketer," said Prasad.

Recovery key factor

With only a week at hand as a full squad in England before the game, recovery will play a vital role, given that the players could be on the field for 90 overs a day across multiple days. From playing in 40 deg Celsius Indian summer, they will be moving to an entirely different weather pattern after a long tournament. "Physically and mentally they need to focus on individual player protocol. The strategy is different, weather condition, time zone, sleeping patterns, food and other variables all have to be taken into consideration and start recovery well ahead," said Ramji Srinivasan, the Founder & Director of Sports Dynamix.

"They should focus on perfect recovery protocols to prevent any injury during the match and increasing efficiency of the players. If they have any niggle, it has to be addressed right away, addressing any sort of injuries of mental and physical fatigue before embarking the flight. Support staff have to play very important role in this," said Ramji.

WORLD AFFAIR

Sharath confident of making last-8 cut in both singles & doubles

ASHOK VENUGOPAL @ Chennai

AGE is just a number for A Sharath Kamal. The 40-year old Olympian and Manika Batra will spearhead the 11-member Indian team, comprising five men and six women, at the World Championships, to be held at Durban, South Africa from May 20 to 28. Sharath has been preparing keenly for the event and is eager to make it to the quarterfinals in both singles, doubles and then take it as it comes. At this stage of his career, he wants to enjoy every outing and not worry too much about the results. At the same time, he insists that he has the hunger to compete. *Excerpts:*

How is the preparation for the worlds?
Started preparing by the end of March. For the last seven weeks, I have been focussing a lot on becoming fitter and faster on the table for which I have been working with my strength and conditioning coach Ramji Srinivasan along with my table tennis coaches Srinivasa Rao and Muralidhara Rao in Chennai. Had couple of sparring partners over the last few weeks to work on specific technical drills.

What are the areas you have worked on during your camp in Bengaluru?
The camp started on May 7 and we are focussing to improve our sharpness in match play, for which specific drills have been designed for practice. At the camp, we are focusing also on men's doubles where I will be partnering with G Sathiyan and our coaches will help us build our doubles game too. The coaches at the camp are Subhajit Saha, Mamta Prabhu and Chris Pfeiffer.

How do you fancy your chances in singles?
It's been round of 32 which I would be looking to get better and hope to make it to the quarterfinals this time around. And in the men's doubles, myself and Sathiyan have been doing quite well and we hope we will make it to the quarterfinals there too.

How is it to be partnering with Sathiyan?
I have been partnering with Sathiyan for the last 5 to 6 years and we've been doing quite well in the international arena where we also won a bronze medal at the Asian Championships in 2021. So now we are looking at making it to the quarterfinals. From there on, if we have a chance to win a medal, we will try and do that.

Any specific area that you are working to counter opponents?
From the Commonwealth Games, I have been trying to add few new techniques into my game like a couple of different serves. And I am also working a lot on my defensive game, while continuing to sharpen my attacking game.

In South Africa the conditions are different, how will the team adapt, are you going early?
I will be going three days prior to the beginning of the tournament where I will try and adapt to the new conditions in South Africa and at the same time for my body to adapt to the time difference between India and South Africa. So it will be very difficult to guess the conditions beforehand. Once you get into the tournament, then you figure out if the conditions (for the game) are fast or slow or spinning.

How do you stay fit at this age?
I focus a lot on my fitness which is the strength behind my longevity in my career. I constantly keep working to be innovative and relevant, keeping working on my reflexes. And guess all this has come in handy.

Will Mumbai move forward?

Mumbai Indians take on Lucknow Super Giants in Lucknow on Tuesday. A look...

NEHAL, THE RISING STAR

Since hitting his first IPL fifty against Chennai Super Kings, Nehal Wadhera has been a consistent performer for Mumbai. His ability to play and hit spin has been crucial for MI, and will come in handy at a venue like Lucknow.

POORAN'S MONSTROSITY

Nicholas Pooran has gotten out in single digits four times this season, but that is not all he has done. With knocks like 44* (13), 45 (19), 62 (19), he has single-handedly turned things around for the franchise. They will need him to do the same over the next couple of weeks.

PIYUSH, THE X-FACTOR

Through the season, Lucknow has largely been a ground where the surface is slow with a bit of turn. While it has worked for LSG's team combination, there is threat in Piyush Chawla who has been running through line-ups for Mumbai. How they handle him will be the key to the fortunes.

Lucknow Super Giants vs Mumbai Indians, Lucknow, 7.30 PM — Live on Star Sports or JioCinema

Next gen theme in Asiad squads

SWAROOP SWAMINATHAN @ Chennai

THE next generation of India's wunderkind chess prodigies — led by D Gukesh (16), R Praggnanandhaa (17) and Arjun Erigaisi (19) — have long been touted as players capable of becoming world beaters. In the short-term, the three youngsters, in the company of relative veterans, P Harikrishna (37) and Vidit Gujrathi (28), will be aiming to win further gongs for India at the upcoming Asian Games.

Erigaisi and Gujrathi will be in action across formats as well as disciplines in Hangzhou. Apart from playing in the team event in the Classical format, they will be playing in the quicker time control (Rapid) in the individual event. Srinath Narayanan, who was coach for the India A team in the Open category last year, returns as coach for the Open team. He said the team's youthfulness could give them an edge. "I think our youthfulness is something to note," he told this daily.

Open: Team (Classical format): P Harikrishna, Vidit Gujrathi, Arjun Erigaisi, D Gukesh, R Praggnanandhaa. Coach: Srinath Narayanan.

Open: Individuals (Rapid): Vidit and Arjun

Women: Team (Classical format) Koneru Humpy, D Harika, Vantika Agrawal, Savitha Bhaskar, R Vaishali. Coach: Abhijit Kunte.

Women: Individual (Rapid): Humpy and Harika

● All four sections have been selected based on ratings in both formats, Classical and Rapid.

"It's probably the first time that all five players (from the country) will go to a team event rated over 2700."

While China confirmed that newly crowned Classical champ Ding Liren will spearhead the host nation, the latter, like the Indian team, have some prodigious talents in their ranks. The reigning Olympiad champions will most likely field a full-strength squad including the likes of Nodirbek Abdusattorov. "China will be our main rivals," Srinath said.

Srinath opined that it's up there with the Olympiad in terms of prestige. "You can argue that the Olympiad is the Olympics of chess but it's also specific to chess. At the Asian Games, a medal isn't just for yourself but you are contributing to the overall medal tally of the country in a multi-discipline event."

Humpy and Harika to lead women's challenge

In the women's event, D Harika and Koneru Humpy, lead the challenge. The two GMs, just like in the Open category, will be supported by three youngsters, including Savithashri Baskar, who, at 15, could be one of the youngest in the contingent. The WIM, a reigning bronze winner at the World Rapids last year, will be joined by R Vaishali and Vantika Agrawal. Speaking on the make-up of both teams, AICF treasurer, Naresh Sharma said: "We have fielded the best possible team and I expect them to do well. The team is strong and we should definitely win medals."

GT win to enter playoffs

AGENCIES @ Ahmedabad

SHUBMAN Gill hit his maiden IPL century to power Gujarat Titans to 188 for nine despite a late comeback by Sunrisers Hyderabad's Bhuvneshwar Kumar (5/30) here.

Gill hit 101 off just 58 balls with the help of 13 fours and one six, and added 147 runs with Sai Sudharsan (47 off 36 balls). Towards the end, SRH rode on Bhuvneshwar's brilliant bowling to restrict GT under 200. In reply, SRH got off to a dreadful start and were reeling at 59/7 after nine overs. In-form Heinrich Klaasen (64), with the support of Bhuvneshwar (27), put up a fight but it was never going to be enough. In the end, SRH fell short by 34 runs. With this win, GT became the first team to secure play-off berth and SRH are out of contention.

Brief scores: GT 188/9 in 20 ovs (Gill 101; Bhuvneshwar 5/30) **bt** SRH 154/9 in 20 ovs (Klaasen 64; Shami 4/21, Mohit 4/28).

EXPRESS READ

Honda bag 2 points in Rd 2 of ARRC

SEPANG: Kavin Samaar Quintal put up a good show as the IDEMITSU Honda Racing India team wrapped up Round 2 of 2023 FIM Asia Road Racing Championship (ARRC) with overall two points here. Kavin, 17, put together a consistent performance in Sunday's AP250cc race 1 to finish 14th.

ICC scraps 'soft signal' by on-field umpires

DUBAI: The ICC has decided to do away with the 'soft signal' by on-field officials, which was used to determine the validity of catches taken inches off the ground, which couldn't necessarily be confirmed through naked eye. The other big announcement involved making helmets mandatory for high-risk positions.

Wrestlers to take their protest to global forum

NEW DELHI: The protesting wrestlers decided to make their "agitation global" by approaching Olympic medallists and athletes from other countries and warned that if their demand for the arrest of former national federation (WFI) chief Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh is not heeded to, a "big call" will be taken after May 21.

Sindhu & Co suffer 2nd loss, out of medal contention

AGENCIES @ Suzhou

SHUTTLERS Kidambi Srikanth and PV Sindhu suffered contrasting defeats as India were knocked out of the Sudirman Cup badminton tournament after suffering a 0-5 loss to Malaysia in their second Group C match.

A day after losing 1-4 to Chinese Taipei, India produced yet another listless show against Malaysia to bow out of the World Mixed Team Championships at the group stage for the second successive time. While Srikanth was too erratic in men's singles contest, Sindhu showed great fightback in the decider after squandering an opening game advantage, only to go down 21-14, 10-21, 20-22 in the end to World No 30 Goh Jin Wei.

It was always going to be a tough ask for Dhruv Kapila and Ashwini Ponnappa to outwit the World No 8 pair of Goh Soon Huat and Lai Shevon Jemie but the Indian combination gave their best before losing 16-21, 17-21 in 35 minutes.

ADVANTAGE INTER

Inter Milan head into second leg of their semifinal CL clash against city rivals AC Milan with a 2-0 advantage. Talking points ahead of the second leg...

INTER'S VIBRANT ATTACK WILL TAKE SOME STOPPING

Inter's attackers have found goals in abundance with veteran forward Edin Dzeko, who scored the opening goal in the first leg of the semifinal, and **Lautaro Martinez** leading the show. Romelu Lukaku, who scored a double in the Serie A on Saturday, has also been in sparkling form and it will take some defensive masterclass to stop Inter. The fact that Lukaku will most likely look to make impact from the bench says a lot.

Of course every player wants to start, but the coach has to make his choices for the team.
—Romelu Lukaku, ahead of second-leg tie against AC Milan

LEAO'S PROBABLE RETURN COULD SPARK MILAN

Milan, meanwhile, come into Tuesday's match in disarray after an embarrassing defeat at lowly Spezia. The probable return of Rafael Leao could be a much-needed boost to Milan. Leao has been crucial to Milan's advance to the last four for the first time since 2007 and without him last week, the seven-time European champions were painfully short of cutting edge.

We're playing a match which could make history for us, we need to believe that we can beat Inter. — Stefano Pioli, AC Milan coach

Inter Milan vs AC Milan | First leg INTER WON 2-0

LIVE ON SONY PICTURES NETWORK @ 12:30 AM (WEDNESDAY IST)

Barcelona, minus Messi, win La Liga title for 1st time since 2019

AP @ Madrid

BARCELONA are celebrating winning the Spanish league — and this time without Lionel Messi. Barcelona lifted their first league trophy after Messi's departure with a 4-2 victory at Espanyol on Sunday in a match marred by Espanyol fans storming the pitch at the end of the game and forcing Barcelona players to head for the locker room.

Robert Lewandowski scored twice to lead the Catalan club to their first league title since 2019. The title was secured with four rounds remaining and two years after Messi left amid the club's financial struggles.

The last time Barcelona had celebrated a league title without Messi in its squad was back in 1998-99. He came into the first team in 2004-05 and won the title that season.

Celebrations on the field were short-lived Sunday as players had to rush to the locker room after a large group of Espanyol fans from the ultra section behind one of the goals started running toward Barcelona players singing and celebrating in the centre. Security guards quickly intervened but riot police had to stand in front of the tunnel's entrance to prevent the fans from going in. The supporters threw chairs and other objects.

Barcelona players rejoice after the match. The La Liga giants got the better of Espanyol 4-2 on Sunday to seal the title with four round remaining | AFP

Alejandro Balde and Jules Kounde also scored for Barcelona, who now has 27 league titles, eight fewer than Real Madrid. Third-place Atletico Madrid is 16 points back after losing 1-0 at last-place Elche earlier Sunday.

The victory over city rival Espanyol gave Barcelona an insurmountable 85 points from 34 matches, 14 points more than Madrid, who won 1-0 at Getafe on Saturday. Barcelona have led since the 13th round and holds the league's best defense with 13 goals conceded — 14 better than any other club. It also has 25 clean sheets. "It's a magnificent feeling, a feeling of job well done," Barcelona coach Xavi said. "This is important to give the club's project some stability. The league title shows that things have been done the right way and that we have to stay on this path."

NOTICE

REQUIREMENT OF VENDORS FOR RUNNING VARIOUS SHOPS IN HQTC (U), AF CAMPUS

Commanding Officer Head Quarter Training Command (Unit), Air Force invites applications from interested vendors / persons for running the following SI Shops in HQ TC (U), IAF campus. Preference will be given to Ex-Servicemen, dependents, war widows then civilians who are experienced in running shops in Defence area.

(a) Barber shop (Contract period from 01 Jun 23 to 31 May 24)
(b) Fruit Juice shop (Contract period from 01 Jun 23 to 31 May 24)
(c) Fruit & Vegetable shop (Contract period from 01 Jul 23 to 30 Jun 24)

Tender Forms may be collected from Unit Admin (Service Institute section) by paying Rs 200/- (Non-refundable) from 0900 hrs to 1400 hrs from 12 May to 22 May 23. Tender forms duly filled are to be dropped in the tender box, kept at Main Guard Room HQ TC IAF latest by 1100 hrs on 25 May 23. For further details, please contact Service Institute Office. Tele: 23411081, Extn: 7626, Ph: 8685000403.

Sd/- (Anisha Hatwal)
Wg Cdr
C Adm O
HQ TC (U) AF

SMART CITY THIRUVANANTHAPURAM LIMITED
CIN U75302KL2017SGC05027

E-TENDER NOTICE

E-Tenders are invited for the following projects of Smart City Thiruvananthapuram Limited Project

Sl. No.	Name of Project	E Tender ID	PAC Amount (Exclusive of GST)	Bid Submission Last Date
Selection of Contractor for Development of Smart Roads and Underground Ducting Including Utility Shifting of Water Supply and Power lines in ABD area Under Smart (Corporation Roads) in Thiruvananthapuram & Improving the ambience of existing 107 MLD STP Muttathara, Providing additional infrastructural facilities				
1	Road ID 179 (Sree Chitra Road)	2023_SCTLT_575012_1	Rs.43,33,897	18/05/2023
2	Road ID 48 (Ayya Vadhiyar Road)	2023_SCTLT_575170_1	Rs.11,06,237	18/05/2023
3	Road ID 60 (Vazhapilly to South Nada Road)	2023 _SCTLT_575155 _1	Rs.34,93,111	18/05/2023
4.	Road ID 70 (Sree Padam Street)	2023_SCTLT_575081_1	Rs.27,68,982	18/05/2023
5	Improving the ambience of "existing 107 MLD STP Muttathara- Providing additional infrastructural facilities"	2023_SCTLT_574773_1	Rs.97,13,130/-	18/05/2023

Date and Time of Opening Price Bid: To Be Intimated Separately to Technically Qualified Bidders by e-mail. All the RFP documents and details are available on the e-Procurement Website. Bids are only accepted online on the Website https://etenders.kerala.gov.in,

(Sd/-), CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER,
SMART CITY THIRUVANANTHAPURAM Ltd.

ALL INDIA INSTITUTE OF AYURVEDA (AIIA)

(An Autonomous Organization under the Ministry of Ayush, Govt. of India)
Gautampuri, Sarita Vihar, Mathura Road, New Delhi - 110076, E-mail: director@aiia.gov.in

Advt. No. AIIA/Rectt/03/2023 **1st May, 2023**

The Institute invites applications for the following Faculty posts to be filled up on direct recruitment/ deputation basis at Satellite Centre of AIIA at Goa: -

Sl. No.	Posts	No. of Posts/ Category	Pay Level	Mode of Recruitment
1.	**PROFESSOR (For AIIA, Goa)**		Level-14A	Direct/Deputation
	Samhita Siddhant	1 (UR)		
	Rachana Sharir	1 (OBC)		
	Kriya Sharir	1 (UR)		
2.	**ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR (For AIIA, Goa)**		Level-13A1	Direct/Deputation
	Samhita Siddhant	1 (OBC)		
	Rachana Sharir	1 (UR)		
	Kriya Sharir	1 (UR)		

For details of qualification, experience, prescribed format of application, and terms & conditions, please visit AIIA's website **https://aiia.gov.in.** Last date of receipt of applications is **31st May, 2023.**

CBC 17219/12/0005/2324 **Director**

STATE BANK OF INDIA
Stressed Assets Recovery Branch, Bengaluru (05173),
3rd floor, Building No. 11/90,
Opp. Trustwell Hospital, Near Old Shivaji Theatre, J. C. Road, Bengaluru - 560 002
Tel: 25943663, 25943664
E-mail : sbi.05173@sbi.co.in

CORRIGENDUM

Reference to the E-auction sale notice published in the Indian Express on 14.05.2023 pertaining to **A/c. Sri.Prasad B.C** S/o Chandrashekar B.C & A/c. **Sri. Raghavendra R** S/o Ravi which is scheduled on 29.05.2023 **read the last date for receipt of EMD as 28.05.2023** instead of 26.05.2023. Other contents of the notice remain same.

15.05.2023 Bangalore **Sd/- Authorised Officer**

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RAJASTHAN RAJYA VIDYUT PRASARAN NIGAM LIMITED

NOTICE INVITING BIDS NO. 01 & 02 (2023-24)

RVPN invites competitive BIDS for following Civil works from experienced, reputed contractors registered in appropriate class with RRVPNL & A or AA class in Central/ State Government Department and their undertakings and registered in GST department. The Tender/bid shall only be submitted through online tendering system of **http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in**. The interested bidders shall have to be enrolled/ registered with portal of **http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** for participating in the bidding process. S. No. 01 to 25 (NIB No. 01 (2023-24) & 01 to 13 (NIB No. 02 (2023-24) UBN No. : VPN2324WSOB00363, VPN2324WSOB00365 to VPN2324WSOB00370, VPN2324WSOB00376 to VPN2324WSOB00398, VPN2324WSOB00404 to VPN2324WSOB00410, VPN2324WSOB00412

Superintending Engineer
Raj.Samwad/C/23/2343 **RRVPN/TR-5837/2023** **(Civil), Jodhpur**

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified that, my client has agreed to purchase the Schedule properties from its Owners (i) **Sri.B.Basavaraju** S/o Late Sri.Basappa, residing at No.577/4, 'Ananya', Balappa Layout, Bidadi Main Road, Bidadi, Ramanagara-562109; (ii) **Sri.Ravi Ankineedu Prasad Rao** S/o Sri.Subbarayadu, residing at No.138, 4th 'A' Cross, Kasthuri Nagar, Bangalore-560043 & (iii) **Sri.R.K.Surendra Babu** S/o Sri.R.Krishnaiah Chetty, residing at No.85, 2nd Floor, Nagasandra Main Road, Tata Silk Farm, Bangalore – 560028.

Apart from the said owners, if any other person/s have any manner of right, title and or interest or claim or charge or lien over the Schedule properties or otherwise have any lawful objection/s for this sale transaction, they are hereby called upon to file their objection/s in writing, along with the photocopies of documents on which they rely, with the undersigned, **within 7 days** from the date of publication of this notice. Objection/s received thereafter will not be binding on my client.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the agricultural lands totally measuring **7 Acres 09.08 Guntas,** as detailed herein below, situated at Ittamadu Village, Bidadi Hobli, Ramanagara Taluk, Ramanagara District:

Sl. No	Sy.No.	Extent	Boundaries			
		A - G	East	West	North	South
1	151/5	00-21	Sy.No.151/8	Sy.No.152/6	Sy.No.151/4	Sy.No.151/6
2	175/2	01-22.08	Nala and Sy.No.175/3	Sy.Nos.175/5, 175/6 and 83	Sy.No.175/6	Sy.No.175/11 and 175/3
3	175/5	00-20	Nala and Private Land	Sy.No.150/6	Sy.No. 175/1B	Sy.No.175/6
4	175/8	01-08.08	Private land and Nala	Sy.No.175/12	Sy.Nos. 175/12 and 175/1A	Sy.No.175/1B
5	175/1B	01-19.08	Private land and Nala	Sy.Nos.175/1, 150/4 and 150/5	Sy.No.175/8	Remaining portion in Sy. No.175/1B
6	175/12	01-38	Sy.No. 175/1A	Sy.Nos.175/13 and land in Sy.No.150	Sy.No., 175/13, 133 and 134	Sy.No.175/8 and 150/4

Sd/- Goutam Chand S.F
Advocate
Goutam Associates
No.60, 2nd Floor, Kanakapura Road,
Basavanagudi, Bangalore – 560 004

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited

(Reg Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala)
Corporate Identification Number: U40109PB2010SGC033813, Website : www.pspcl.in
(Contact Number - 96461-22227)

Tender Enquiry No. 72/CE/RE&APDRP/RDSS/2023-24 dated 15.05.2023

EIC/RE&APDRP invites E-Tenders from reputed and experienced firms for Development of Distribution Infrastructure for 15 No. Packages (Package no. 1-Patiala, Package no. 2-Mohali & Rupnagar, Package no. 3-Sangrur, Malerkotla & Barnala, Package no. 4-Bathinda, Mansa & Fazilika, Package no. 5-Faridkot, Ferozpur & Mukatsar, Package no. 6 - Nawashehar & Fatehgarh Sahib, Package no. 7 - Ludhiana -1, Package no. 8-Ludhiana-2, Package no. 9-Ludhiana-3 & Moga, Package no. 10-Hoshiarpur-1, Package no. 11-Hoshiarpur-2, Package no. 12-Jalandhar, Package no. 13-Kapurthala & TarnTaran, Package no. 14-Amritsar, Package no. 15 - Gurdaspur & Pathankot) of Punjab under Revamped Reforms-based and Results-Linked, Distrbution Sector Scheme (RDSS). For detailed NIT and Tender Specifications please refer to **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in from 15.05.2023**

Note:- Corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published online at **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in**

312/C-230/23-5/15/2023
76155/12/1650/2023/23868

THE KARNATAKA STATE CO-OPERATIVE APEX BANK LTD.

No.1, 'UTHUNGA', Pampamahakavi Road, Chamarajpet, Bengaluru-560018.
Ph: 080-26676325, 26983700, 22976600, 22976622, 22976656
Fax: 080-26628521, E-mail: recoverycell@karnatakaapex.com

POSSESSION NOTICE [Rule 8(1)] (For Immovable Property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of **The Karnataka State Co-Operative Apex Bank Limited.,** under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the power conferred under Section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 issued a Demand Notice dated **27.02.2023** calling upon the Borrower **Sri Manoj Kumar. G S/o. Late A. Ganeshan,** #73/1, A.G.J.C. Nilayam, Police Road, Ranasinghpet, Chickpet, Bengaluru South, Bengaluru - 560053. **Also at:** No.58, BBMP No.1270/100/1251/1108, Sy.No. 97/98/1, H.V. Halli, Kengeri Hobli, Bengaluru - 560098 and **Guarantor: Sri Vishnuthirtha. S.V. S/o. Venkobarao. S.,** No.205, 3rd Stage, BEML Layout, Rajarajeshwarinagar, Bengaluru - 560098 **Also at:** Proprietor, Poornaprajna Catering, No. 220/3, 6th Main Road, BEML 5th Stage, H.V. Halli, Rajarajeshwarinagar, Bengaluru - 560098 to repay the amount mentioned in the said Notice being of **Rs. 21,20,510/- (Rupees Twenty One Lakhs Twenty Thousand Five Hundred and Ten Only) as on 31.01.2023** together with future interest thereon at contractual rate of interest along with the cost and charges **within 60 days** from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower, Guarantor and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Sub Section (4) of Section 13 of the Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, on this the **12th Day of May of the year 2023.**

The Borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of **The Karnataka StateCo-Operative Apex Bank Ltd., Rajarajeshwarinagar Branch,** for an amount of **Rs. 21,20,510/- (Rupees Twenty One Lakhs Twenty Thousand Five Hundred and Ten Only) as on 31.01.2023** together with future interest thereon at contractual rate of interest and costs along with the charges till the date of realization.

The Borrower's attention is invited to provisions of Sub-Section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE SCHEDULE PROPERTY:

All that piece and parcel of the Property No.58, formed in Sy.No.97 and 98/1, assigned with BBMP Khatha No.1270/100/1251/1108, situated at Halagevaderahalli Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore District and measuring East to West 40 feet, North to South 30 feet, totally measuring 1200 Sq.ft, with residential building and bounded on: **East by :** Haduvali Land, **West by :** Road, **North by :** Government Lake, **South by :** Site No. 57.

Date : 12-05-2023 **Sd/- Authorised Officer**
Place : Bengaluru **The Karnataka State Co-Operative Apex Bank Ltd.,**

MINORITY WELFARE DEPARTMENT
DIRECTORATE OF MINORITIES

No.16C, Moulana Abu Kalam Azad Bhavan, Miller Tank Bed Area, Vasanth Nagara, Bengaluru-560 001, Helpline No:8277799990 (24/7)
Ph 080-22864212/ Fax: 080-22863618 **E-mail:**directorgokdom@gmail.com **Website:**www.gokdom.kar.nic.in

No.: DoM/XX/P.U.C./A.A./CR-22/2023-24 Date: 12.05.2023

NOTIFICATION

Applications invited for Free Admission to Minorities Morarji Desai Girls Residential Pre-University Colleges and Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Residential Colleges (C.B.S.E.) being managed by Minorities Welfare Department.

Date for submission of Application for First P.U.C. for the year 2023-24: **from 12.05.2023 to 25.05.2023 up to 5.30 PM.**

For the benefit of students of Minority Communities, State Syllabus 13 and C.B.S.E. Syllabus 26 PU English Medium Residential Colleges are being run. Students belonging to Minority Communities (Muslim, Christian, Jain, Buddhist, Parsi and Sikh), SC/ST and Other Backward Caste can submit applications for admission to First PUC by personally visiting the concerned colleges.

Mode of submitting Application

1. Interested Minority Students SC/ST and Other Backward Caste can submit Application for free to the Principal of their nearest Minorities Morarji Desai Girls Residential College and Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Residential College along with all documents.

Eligibility

1. Students should belong to Minority Communities, i.e., 75% reservation in admission for Muslim, Christian, Jain, Buddhist, Parsi and Sikh communities.
2. Students who have studied in the 10th standard and passed from any Minorities Residential School/Government/ Government Approved Schools.
3. Should be a domicile of Karnataka State.
4. Annual Family Income should not exceed Rs. 2.50 lakhs.
5. 3% Reservation for Specially Abled.
6. 25% Reservation in Admission for SC/ST, Other Backward Class.

Facilities provided in Residential Colleges

1. Free Education, Food, Uniform, Hygiene Kit, Stationery, Text Books and other facilities are provided free.
2. To be helpful for professional education like technical and medical science subjects are provided in combination of PCMB, PCMC and commerce subjects in HEBA and classes will be conducted in English medium.
3. Special Classes will be given free for entrance exams to professional courses.

Details of Minorities Morarji Desai Girls Residential Colleges and Principals are as below.

Sl. No.	District	Name of Principal & Phone No.	Address of College	Available Combinations	Sanctioned Strength
1	Belagavi	Sri.VittobhaHonakande, Ph.No. 9538940305	MDPU college chikkodi (Hirekodi)-591247	PCMB HEBA	240
2	Bagalakote	Sri. Mohammed Nayeemagaraga Ph.No. 8951669687	MDPU college Navanagar Bagalakote	PCMB HEBA	240
3	Haveri	Sri. Prashant Jadennanvar Ph.No. 7676711656	MDPU College Karjagi	PCMB HEBA	240
4	Haveri	Kumari. Girijavva N Ph.No. 8496098631	MDPU College AkkiAaloor	PCMB HEBA	240
5	Bidar	Sri. Santoshakumar Ph.No. 9448579310	MDPU College Kapalapoor	PCMB PCMC	160
6	Kalaburgi	Sri. Aanand Ph.No. 9972564776	MDPU College Madeenakalonikalburgi	PCMB PCMC	160
7	Kalaburgi	Smt. Bhyagyashree Kumbara Ph.No. 8904564776	MDPU College Dandoti	PCMB HEBA	240
8	Raichur	Sri. Somanatha D Ph.No. 6363962274	MDPU College Chandrabamnd, Raichur	PCMB HEBA	240
9	Hassan	Smt. Sunita H S Ph.No. 8951669687	MDPU College Channarayapattana	PCMB HEBA	240
10	Koppal	Sri. Vijayakumargouda Ph.No. 9986470630	MDPU College Koppala	PCMB PCMC	160
11	Koppal	Sri. Krishnamurthy Ph.No. 8105457095	MDPU College Kukanoor	PCMB HEBA	240
12	Koppal	Sri. Hanumesh Ph.No. 9880958503	MDPU College Hirebenakal	PCMB HEBA	240
13	Chitradurga	Sri. Lingaraju B Ph.No. 8748955446	MDPU College Medahaliichitradurga	PCMB HEBA	240

Details of Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Residential Colleges (C.B.S.E.) and Principals are as below.

Sl. No.	District	Name of Principal & Phone No.	Address of College	Available Combinations	Sanctioned Strength
1	Tumakuru	Geetha A S 8904846627	Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Residential School (CBSE) Bhuvanahalli.Sira	PCMB HEBA	240
2	Ramanagara	Inamulla 8880005415	Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Residential School (CBSE) Gousia Nagar, Ramanagar Town, Ramanagar Taluk, Ramanagar	PCMB PCMC	160
3	Chikkaballapura	Nagaiah 7349008289	Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Residential School (CBSE) , Masthenahalli Village, Kaiwara Post	PCMB HEBA	240
4	Dakshina Kannada	Muttura Nagaprasadreddy 8970707858	Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Residential Girls School (CBSE), Deralakattekonaje, Asaigoli (Post), Mangaluru (Tq), Dakshina Kannada-574199	PCMB PCMC	160
5	Mysuru	Prakash B M 6363343373	Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Residential School (CBSE) Doddakanya Jayapura Hobli Mysuru -571311	PCMB HEBA	240
6	Shivamogga	Tejaswini (I/C) 9591237905	Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Residential School (CBSE) Melinahanasawadi, Gonhichatnahalli Post, Shivamogga	PCMB HEBA	240
7	Vijayapura	Sanganna Alagura 9591612073	Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Residential School (CBSE) Near Nh52 Arakeri Lt01. Tq. Tikota 586104	PCMB HEBA	240
8	Ballari	Ravi U M 8971171672	Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Residential School (CBSE) Kolagallu Ballari (Tq) (Dist) - 583104	PCMB HEBA	240
9	Bagalakote	Sri Anand Doddur 7019248954	Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Residential School (CBSE) Navanagara Bagalkote Town, Bagalkote	PCMB/Cs	160
10	Bidar	Vijayalaxmi 8951364026	Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Residential School (CBSE) Kapalapura, Bidar	PCMB/Cs	160
11	Kalaburagi	Ismayil Sab Nadaf 9902906266	Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Residential School (CBSE) Kalaburagi	PCMB/Cs	160
12	Raichuru	Sumera Anjum 7406629908	Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Residential School (CBSE) Raichuru	PCMB/Cs	160
13	Koppal	Santosh Kumar S K 9164912127	Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Residential School (CBSE) HiresindogiKoppala	PCMB/Cs	160
14	Yadagiri	Santosh Sii 9449246564	Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Residential School (CBSE) Balacheda, Yadagiri	PCMB/Cs	160
15	Haveri	Prashanth Jadenavara 9620915496	Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Residential School (CBSE) Haveri, Haveri District	PCMB/Cs	160
16	Mandya	Mahesha R 9902844846	Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Residential School, Adihalli K.R Pete, Mandya District	PCMB/Cs	160
17	Gadag	Manjula Chalavadi 8861332782	Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Residential School (CBSE), MallasamudraGadag	PCMB	120
18	Vijayanagara	Parashuram 9901302904	Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Residential School (CBSE) Jambunatha Temple Road, Hospete, Vijayanagar District	PCMB	120
19	Kolar	Mahadeva K N 9686799165	Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Residential School (CBSE) Gajaladinne, Kolar Town	PCMB	120
20	Chamarajanagara	Madhu Kumar P 9964346118	Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Residential School (CBSE), Gundlupete Town, Chamarajanagara District - 571111	PCMB	120
21	Bengaluru Rural	Shashikala R 9632933397	Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Residential School (CBSE) Giddappanahalli, Sulibele Hobli, Hoskote Taluk 562129	PCMB	120
22	Dharwad	Sushma M P 7337768683	Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Residential School (CBSE), No 1 AnchatageriTq Hubli Dist Dharwad 580024	PCMB	120
23	Chikkamagaluru	Sandya K M 9743308503	Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Residential School (CBSE) Tegur, Chikkamagaluru	PCMB	120
24	Davanagere	Ramaswamy 9008815296	Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Residential School (CBSE) Kondajji Harihara TqDavanagereDist Pin-577589	PCMB	120
25	Kodagu	Mahesha M K 7676473767	Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Residential School (CBSE), Kodlipete	PCMB	120
26	Uttara Kannada	Vishwanath Hulasadar 8095923300	Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Residential School (CBSE), Ambewadi, Uttara Kannada	PCMB	120

For further information contact the above mentioned Principals or Department helpline no. 8277799990 or Department website **https://dom.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Director, Directorate of Minorities, Bengaluru.

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS City

Bengaluru Express

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16.05.2023
TUESDAY

DAY'S DIARY

Flight launch

STS-134 Commander Mark Kelly and his crew of five blasted off Launch Pad 39A on space shuttle Endeavour in Florida on this day in 2011

THE CREW

Pilot Greg H. Johnson, Mission Specialists Mike Fincke, Drew Feustel, Greg Chamitoff and Roberto Vittori with the European Space Agency rounded out the crew

TRIVIA

This was the first shuttle flight for Fincke, a veteran space flier, and Vittori, who is the last international astronaut to fly aboard a shuttle

THE MISSION

The complex 16-day mission, dedicated to station assembly and maintenance, included four spacewalks and the installation of AMS

Check out the events in the city

PG 2

BEHIND THE BLINDFOLD

There's renewed interest in 'hidden bars' or speakeasies in B'luru - that were once popular during the Prohibition era in the US - owing to the romanticised image of glamour, nostalgia and intrigue associated with these spaces

DESE GOWDA

AS Bengaluru grew to become the IT hub that it is today, it saw a tremendous change in its demographics, becoming one of the most ethically diverse cities in the country. To serve a largely tech-savvy population, the leisure industry has grown multi-fold, with the city's nightlife scene brimming with a wide variety of pubs and bars. Amidst this, a few up-and-coming bars are distinguishing themselves from the oversaturated scene. One cannot simply walk into these watering holes like any other bar. Instead, these hidden bars – speakeasies – are often located behind unassuming doors, disguised as something else entirely – a bathroom door, for instance. Once inside, patrons are transported to another time and place, with dim lighting, vintage decor and an exclusive vibe.

One such bar is the 10, Speakeasy in Ashok Nagar. Chef Rahul Mark Barua, an F&B consultant who has been integral in setting up various eateries in the city, including the 10, Speakeasy, says the element of surprise and exclusivity is what makes Speakeasies attractive to customers.

"Unlike a traditional bar, you cannot just walk into a speakeasy. They're hidden and often have passcodes to gain entry. The premium cocktails are made for connoisseurs. So the whole experience makes one feel special," he adds.

However, many speakeasies are not traditional. To accomodate higher demand during weekends, these bars are thrown open to everyone, and even the music, for that fleeting end of the week period, do not follow the unwritten rules of speakeasies.

Meanwhile, Suchi Roy, bar manager at ZLB23 the city's latest clandestine watering hole that recently opened its doors at The Leela Palace, says attraction behind speakeasies also have to do with nostalgia. "The yearning to be transported into a different era is what has elevated the popularity of speakeasies in recent years," she says, adding that the experience that ZLB offers pays homage to the Prohibition era speakeasies. This includes a menu featuring rare dishes and a curated menu of Prohibition era cocktails (each reportedly with its own story) and vintage luxury decor.

Alister Braganza, regional operations head - South, SOCIAL says speakeasies' association with the prohibition era has given them a romanticised image of glamour, nostalgia and intrigue. "People, including young professionals, hipsters to older patrons who appreciate the vintage ambiance and nostalgic vibe frequent the speakeasy in Indiranagar. A hip and nostalgic vibe that is unlike anything they have experienced in the city draws them here," he adds.

GIN JOINTS

Speakeasies are bars that emulate clandestine watering holes from the Prohibition era in the United States. The term speakeasy is thought to have come from the patrons having to whisper (or, speak 'easy') while entering the hidden bar. Often regarded as unofficial birthplaces of jazz, speakeasies not only allowed people to subvert the ban on alcohol but were also crucial in empowering women, given that many such establishments were run by women. In contrast, modern speakeasies are established within the law and comply with all regulations.

Depicting stories of ancient cultures through modern mediums, the Australian Consul-General brings textile exhibition 'Jarracharra' to Bengaluru today

Time to rewind

PRATTUSA MALLIK

DESPITE inhabiting the region for 65,000 years, Aboriginal people now make up only 3.2 per cent of Australia's population. Not only do they track below on the majority of socioeconomic indicators but they do not even find mention in the country's 122-year-old Constitution. To recognise these Aboriginal people (also called the First Nations Peoples of Australia), a referendum is supposed to be held later in 2023 in Australia which would alter their Constitution by establishing an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice to Parliament. While the conversation has been gaining momentum in the last couple of months, the Australian Consul-General for South India **Sarah Kirlew** is set to present 'Jarracharra', an exhibition of textile works by women First Nations artists from Bábbarra Women's Centre from May 16 to 25 at the Bangalore International Centre, Domlur.

For the uninitiated, Bábbarra Women's Centre is a collective to support the lives of Aboriginal women in the community of Maningrida and its surrounding homelands. They tell the ancestral stories of their history through contemporary mediums. Giving us an insight into the works, Kirlew says, "The exhibition includes a range of colourful screen-printed textiles created by women First Nations artists from Bábbarraa Women's Centre. Their work pushes artistic barriers to depict ancient narratives through contemporary mediums. Their designs tell the ancestral stories of their West Arnhem Land cultures."

The exhibition aims to highlight the importance that Australia places on its First Nations cultures as an integral part of the country's national identity. It has been displayed in leading galleries globally and comes to town after a tour of Kolkata, Mumbai, Delhi and Chennai. For the first time, the exhibition includes new pieces and woodblocks developed collaboratively, after artists from the Babbarra Women's Centre visited the Tharangini studio in Bengaluru earlier this year. The new textiles combine traditional Indian woodblock carving with indigenous Australian designs. Among items on display is a sari made of Indian silk, printed with indigenous designs. The exhibition also includes some woodblock prints on paper.

Artworks displayed at the exhibition 'Jarracharra'

So, what kinds of stories will these works of art narrate? Kirlew takes us back in time to explain. "Important stories are often told through use of symbols or iconography. For instance, a curved U-shape is widely used to symbolise a person because it represents the shape left on the sand when a person sits down. The earliest forms of Aboriginal art were rock carvings and paintings, body painting and ground designs. Placing the art on canvas began about 50 years ago. Today, the art is done on a range of mediums and in this exhibition, on textiles," she said, adding, "Much of contemporary Aboriginal art is based on important ancient stories centred on the 'Dreamtime' – the period in which indigenous people believe the world was created. Stories about the time have been handed down through generations."

Another vital concept for First Nations Australians is their connection to their country as a source of spiritual, cultural and physical sustenance. The themes of the work inspired from this concept include natural features like plants, animals and rivers. People from the culture use their art as a form of political expression as well.

What does 'Jarracharra' mean?

'Jarracharra' is the name given to a distinctive cool wind that blows across Arnhem Land in Australia's far north in the dry season. The arrival of the wind signifies the beginning of a period of exchange between clans and an annual ceremonial coming together. The wind has brought people together for ceremony, dance and ritual for tens of thousands of years.

The exhibition includes a range of colourful screen-printed textiles created by women First Nations artists from Bábbarraa Women's Centre. Their work pushes artistic barriers and their designs tell the ancestral stories of their West Arnhem Land cultures

Sarah Kirlew, Australian Consul-General for South India

CITY READ

Students enthral audience with Yakshagana performance

The traditional theatre art form of Yakshagana was brought to life by the talented students of Jnana Vijnana Vidyapeetha, Bengaluru. The performance took place at the Jawahar Kala Kendra in Jaipur on the evening of May 14. The event witnessed an enthusiastic gathering, including parents and numerous residents of Jaipur, who eagerly attended the programme. Under the direction of Vasudeva K S, a Kannada teacher from Jnana Vijnana Vidyapeetha, the students showcased their mastery of Yakshagana, leaving the audience spellbound.

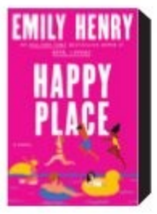
Ramaiah Institute of Technology hosts Pradarshana-2023

The Open Day Project Exhibition 'Pradarshana-2023' held at Ramaiah Institute of Technology in Bengaluru showcased students' creative thinking and implementation skills — the exhibition aimed to foster interest in research beyond the curriculum and promote holistic development through hands-on learning. Chief guests Dr Nagahanumaiah and Dr M R Jayaram emphasised the importance of innovation and faculty involvement in technological advancements. A total of 403 final-year projects were displayed, along with industry stalls showcasing new products. The exhibition also featured project evaluations and awards, highlighting the collaboration between academia and industry. Pradarshana-2023 welcomed prospective students, parents, investors, stakeholders and the general public.

HOLY ANGEL'S HIGH SCHOOL
STUDENTS OF HOLY ANGEL'S HIGH SCHOOL LOCATED IN HAMPINAGAR VIJAYANAGAR, HAS SCORED HIGHEST MARKS & PASSED IN DISTINCTION.
ICSE TOPPERS 2023

SHARATH A. 96.20% | BHAVANA K.A. 95.40% | ASMITA C. 95.00% | CHINMAYEE NARAYANAN 95.00% | SRUSHTI L. 94.20% | HEMASHREE D.P. 93.80% | SARVIKA S.H. 93.80% | SWAGATH B.S. 93.60% | NAGA LIKITH M.V. 92.60% | PALAK JAIN 92.60%
TANISHA S. 92.60% | PRANAV 91.60% | PRANATHI H.C. 91.20% | MANOGNA G. 91.00% | RITHU G. 90.80% | JAHNAVI R. YADAV 90.60% | RACHANA AADYA 90.40% | SINCHANA J. 90.00% | VEERESH MULGE 89.80% | SHAILASHREE M. 89.40%
MD. REHAN KHAN 88.80% | SRINIDHI M.M. 88.80% | ANISHKA KRISHNAN 88.60% | PRAVEENA B. YATAGIRI 88.00% | SARAYU NAKSHATRA 88.00% | HARIPRIYA S. 87.60% | NIHAL KIRAN KUMAR 87.60% | HARSH V. PATEL 87.20% | SPOORTHY K.T. 87.00% | ADITYA GIRIA 86.80%

BOOK NOOK



Happy Place
Emily Henry

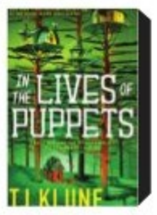
Harriet and Wyn have been the perfect couple since they met in college—they go together like salt and pepper, honey and tea, lobster and rolls. Except, now—for reasons they're still not discussing—they don't. They broke up six months ago. And still haven't told their best friends.

Chain of Thorns
Cassandra Clare

Cordelia Carstairs has lost everything that matters to her. In only a few short weeks, she has seen her father murdered, her plans to become parabatai with her best friend, Lucie, destroyed, and her marriage to James Herondale crumble before her eyes.

The Fragile Threads of Power
V. E. Schwab

Once, there were four worlds, nestled like pages in a book, each pulsing with fantastical power, and connected by a single city, London. Until the magic grew too fast, and forced the worlds to seal the doors between them in a desperate gamble to protect their own.



In the Lives of Puppets
T.J. Klune

A little home built into the branches of a grove of trees, live three robots — fatherly inventor android Giovanni Lawson, a pleasantly sadistic nurse machine, and a small vacuum desperate for love and attention. Victor Lawson, a human, lives there too.

WHAT WHEN WHY WHERE

Unleash creativity

A workshop to help kids learn different types of painting styles on canvas. The two-hour session will give kids the joy of painting and learning art.

WHEN: May 16 onwards, 11.30am
WHERE: Art Beat, HSR Layout and JP Nagar
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Art Showcase

An exhibition of 15 limited edition prints by artist Vivek Bangle that are inspired by his travels and love for architecture.

WHEN: May 16, 11am
WHERE: Urban Solace, Halasuru
DETAILS: insider.in

Coffee Connoisseur

A one-day course that will give a solid foundation in the sensory evaluation of roasted coffee. A highly valuable for various food and beverage industry roles.

WHEN: May 16, 10am **WHERE:** Araku Coffee, Indiranagar **DETAILS:** insider.in

Sharpen your skills

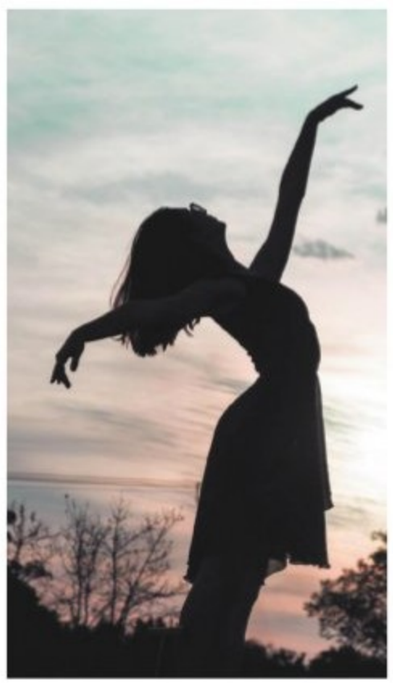
Learn how to develop a startup business through this one-day workshop, including how to penetrate into different markets and more.

WHEN: May 16, 1pm
WHERE: Atechup, Vittal Mallya Road
DETAILS: allevents.in

Write Out Loud

A heart-plucking session of poetry, and good company, where you get to put your soul on paper.

WHEN: May 16, 7.30pm
WHERE: Lahe Lahe, Kodihalli
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com



Step Up

An uplifting celebration with dance and carefully-curated soundscapes. Let the rhythm of the dance express your innermost emotions.

WHEN: May 20, 12pm
WHERE: Small World, Koramangala
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Laughing Hours

A standup comedy show featuring fresh jokes, hilarious stories and funny interactions with comedian, Aakash Mehta.

WHEN: May 19, 8pm
WHERE: Drunkling Comedy Club, Koramangala **DETAILS:** bookmyshow.com

Discover Yourself

The Living Philosophy is a course that integrates concepts formulated by influential philosophers spanning from Eastern to Western traditions. **WHEN:** May 16, 7.30pm
WHERE: New Acropolis, Jayanagar
DETAILS: allevents.in

FROZEN IN TIME

A visitor looks at a sculpture by cement sculptor K Narayan Rao recently exhibited at the Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

QUICK FIX

CREAMY TOMATO SOUP

Contributed by **Shajadi Raiza,** Chennai

INGREDIENTS

- **Tomato:** 4-5, large
- **Garlic:** 8-10 cloves
- **Water:** 1 cup
- **Oil, sugar, salt and pepper:** As per taste
- **Onion:** 1 medium-sized
- **Dried oregano:** 1 tsp
- **Cream:** 1 cup

METHOD

- Roast the sliced vegetables in a pan until cooked.
- Blend the roasted mixture. Heat the blended mixture in a pan along with oregano, water, cream, sugar and more salt and pepper to your taste until the soup bubbles .
- Enjoy it with a cheese toast on the side.

What's cooking in your kitchen?

We are hungry for recipes with minimum ingredients and maximum flavours. Share your quick-fix with us, along with step-by-step photos, at bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com

FIT BIT

VATAYANASANA SIDE STRETCH
(HORSE POSE SIDE STRETCH)

This is a beautiful hip and heart opener practice. Here, the lower body is in a squatting position and the upper body is in the lateral stretch. This variation of Horse Pose stretches and lengthens the neck, shoulders, arms, and chest.

STEPS

- First, start in Tadasana, bringing your feet together, hands by your side and take a few deep breaths. Inhale, place your hands on the waist. Exhale, jump apart. Now, turn your feet, bringing the heels in and the toes out.
- Inhale, roll your shoulders back and draw the navel into the spine, activating the core. Exhale, begin to squat down while bending your knees.
- Keep your knees aligned with their ankles and get your thighs parallel to the floor. Press into all four corners of the feet. Inhale and bring your palms to the knees.
- Now, twist and turn your hands to place the back of the palms on the thighs. Bend on the left, inhale, and lift your right arm overhead. Exhale, draw your navel to the spine, and bend on the left.
- Finally, inhale, and turn your head to gaze upwards. Stay here for about six breaths. To release, exhale, turn the head back to the center, releasing the side bend, lower your right hand on the thigh.
- Then counter the stretch on the other side (right) following the above instructions.
- Finally, back to Tadasana and relax in Mountain Pose Three Part Breath.

BENEFITS

- Strengthens the hips, the lower back and the thigh muscles.
- It widens the uterus before pregnancy and helps during pregnancy.
- Helps to broaden the chest and correct postural defects.
- Massages the organs in the abdomen, particularly the kidneys, the ovaries, urinary system and the prostate gland.
- Enhances the functioning of organs in the thorax and improves respiration.
- Energizes the body, relieves stress and gives a general sense of well-being.
- Alleviates digestive ailments, and removes sluggishness in the kidney.
- Reduces the chance of hernia, improving the conditions of blood pressure.
- Controls diabetes, or even improved conditions related to Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD).
- Women recovering from breast cancer can find a soothing practice to ease the side-effects of chemotherapy.

LIMITATIONS

People suffering from hip, ankle and knee injuries, shoulder problems, can avoid this.

When widening the legs don't go beyond your limit.

By N Elumalai, PhD scholar (Yoga Science) at Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education & Research, Chennai

NOW STREAMING

REGIONAL

GASLIGHT (Hindi)

Meesha returns to her royal family estate after 15 years to visit her estranged father, only to find him missing. He is out of the station, or has she just been told that by her stepmother?

Cast – Vikrant Massey, Sara Ali Khan, Akshay Oberoi, Chitrangada Singh

- **Watch on –** Disney+ Hotstar

METER
(Telugu)

The story is about an energetic youngster, Arjun Kalyan, who ends up becoming a Sub-Inspector. But he loathes the job and tries his best to get dismissed from the department.

Cast: Kiran Abbavaram, Athulya Ravi, Keshavdeepak Ballari, Krishna Murali Posani, Sapthagiri.

- **Watch on:** Netflix

DASARA (kannada)

Amid the daily grind in a coal mining town, politics, and power dynamics take a dangerous toll on a love triangle between three long time friends.

Cast: Nani, Keerthy Suresh, Dheekshith Shetty, Shine Tom Chacko

- **Watch on:** Netflix

ROMANCHAM (Malayalam)

While seven bachelors are living in Bangalore in 2007, Jiby brings out the Ouija board.

Cast: Soubin Shahir, Arjun Ashokan, Abin Bino, Siju Sunny

- **Watch on :** Disney+ Hostar

KALI JOTTA (Punjabi)

The story portrays the struggle and relationship between Raabia and her student Anant and raises various questions and disagreements regarding the politics of gender performativity in the Indian cultural system.

Cast : Satinder Sartaaj, Ankur Verma, Neeru Bajwa, Harpreet Bhoora, Wamiqa Gabbi

- **Watch on :** Chaupal OTT

All the streaming apps can be accessed on smartphones and smart TVs with Internet connection.

VIDUTHALAI PART 1 (Tamil)

This is a story of an ordinary man who is put in an extraordinary situation. He would consider a certain path to be the right one but is unable to as those above him think otherwise.

Cast: Soori, Vijay Sethupathi, Bhavani Sre

- **Watch on:** ZEE5

AUGUST 16, 1947 (Tamil)

It revolves around a village where people suffer from a British officer during the pre-independence era. How he keeps the news of India becoming independent hidden from them for his selfish needs forms the rest of the story.

Cast : Gautham Karthik, Madhusudhan Rao, Neelima Rani, Jason Shah, Richard Ashton, Suresh Ekambaram

- **Watch on:** Amazon Prime Video

FOREIGN

ABBOTT ELEMENTARY (Series, English)

Follows a group of teachers brought together in one of the worst public schools in the country, simply because they love teaching.

Cast: Quinta Brunson, Sheryl Lee Ralph, Janelle James

- **Watch on:** Disney+ Hotstar

A MAN CALLED OTTO
(English)

Devastated and lonely, a widower decides to take a drastic step. However, his plans are disrupted by a lively family that moves in next door.

Cast: Tom Hanks, Mariana Treviño, Rachel Keller

- **Watch on:** Netflix

HANNAH GADSBY: SOMETHING SPECIAL (Stand-up comedy)

The comic shares tales of love and marriage about a panicky proposal, a novelty wedding cake and a fateful bunny encounter.

Cast: Hannah Gadsby

- **Watch on:** Netflix

THE MARVELOUS MRS MAISEL
(Series, English)

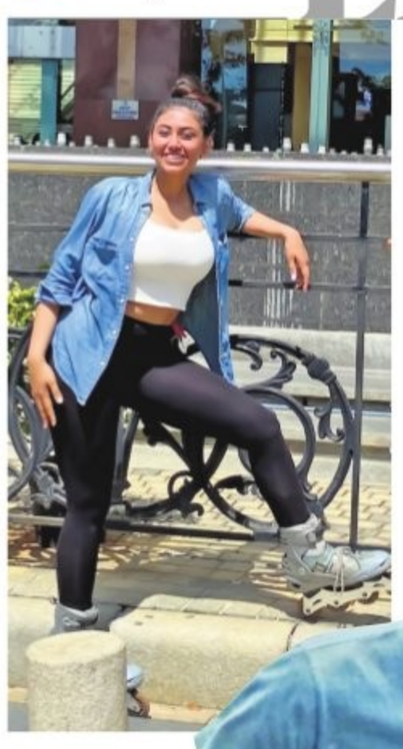
After her husband leaves her, Miriam discovers her talent for stand-up comedy.

Cast: Rachel Brosnahan, Alex Borstein

- **Watch on:** Amazon Prime Video

SUBSCRIPTION

ZEE5:	₹ 799 per year
Prime Video:	₹ 179 per month
Netflix:	₹ 149 per month
Sony LIV:	₹ 299 per month
Mubi:	₹ 1,999 per year



SKATING ON THIN ICE

Skaters in the city are the latest casualty of the reinforced regulations of Cubbon Park

TUNIR BISWAS

We're seeing a decline in the number of skaters coming. Recently, I saw only about 20 people skating as compared to the 150-200 skaters who used to come between 8am and 4pm

Divye Karde, founder, Bengaluru Skaters

THERE is panic in Cubbon Park. After the park's horticulture department reinforced regulations in April, the most disappointing to the skaters' community is not being allowed to use the park for their activity. As per the regulation, skaters are not allowed to skate in the park in large numbers. This comes as a shock as they have been frequenting the park on weekends for the better part of the last decade.

Even though the rule hasn't been applied completely yet, Harshil Pansare who is a two-time national medallist in aggressive freestyle skating says there has been noticeable friction between the skaters and the Cubbon Park security guards lately. "Even though skaters are still allowed in, the guards have notified that once a board is put up announcing their ban, they won't be able to assemble in groups in the park anymore," says Pansare, adding, "We have been skating in Cubbon Park for many years and I, myself, have been doing it for more than five years. Usually, skaters do not bother anyone. Since the news of the ban, we have been trying to get in touch with them but the authorities haven't responded yet," says Pansare.

Richa Singh, a new skater in the park, feels the ban would be unfortunate as the park is one of the best places for a beginner. "In these two years, I have seen our community grow. The infrastructure of the roads are good and there is no traffic. People are helpful as well and the community helps you grow," remarks Singh.

Going against the sentiments of the skaters, S Umesh Kumar, president of Cubbon Park Walkers' Association and Cubbon Park Walkers' Forum, feels the skaters pose a threat to senior joggers. "Some of the walkers and joggers are over 80 or 90 years of age. I am concerned about their safety. Cubbon Park is not a playground, there are other places for it in the city. Cubbon Park is about greenery. People should come here and enjoy nature. But so many people are misusing the space," says Kumar.

Divye Karde, founder of Bengaluru Skaters, a community that has been active for the past seven years, counters this by saying older citizens are supportive of the skaters. "I do not understand why the walkers would have an issue with us skating. I have seen many of the walkers, across ages, taking a break to watch us. We have children as well as seniors over 80 also coming to learn. So I don't understand the issue. It seems like the authorities are not ready to have a conversation with us unless we physically meet. We're seeing a decline in the number of skaters coming. Recently, I saw only about 20 people skating as compared to the 150-200 skaters who used to separately come between 8am and 4pm to skate," shares Karde.

According to Balakrishna HT, deputy director of the horticulture department, they only wanted to disallow skating in large numbers, not skating altogether. "We have no problem with a few people skating in the park. But some of the them are giving training services in the park without permission and charging money for it. When around 100 skaters come to train here, it becomes a commercial activity. A few people can skate all they want but we can't allow such commercial activities in large numbers to be held in the park," concludes Balakrishna.

ILLUSTRATION: SOURAV ROY

Game of thrones

IT'S the season of coronations. Last weekend, we were riveted to the spectacle in London, where a new king ascended the throne, long after the sun set on the Empire. We, erstwhile subjects, unabashedly took in the sights and sounds, pomp and pageantry, hype and hoopla. It looked straight out of the fairytales we had lapped up in childhood.

There are, of course, two ways of looking at such events: as a crass display of aristocracy caught in a time warp, or as a respectful continuation of ancient traditions and rituals. Whatever the perspective, you have to give it to the British for event management. It was a once-in-a-lifetime event, streamed live, a royal tamasha for the people, by the people and of the people. The subjects lined the streets to pay obeisance as the procession rolled by. Frankly, I enjoyed watching it, from the carriage to the bobbies to the regalia, right into the sombre precincts of Westminster, where the King was anointed, Queen consort, flaws and all.

Much closer home, almost in the next lane, in fact, another procession was in progress. The streets had been scrubbed, sanitised and barricaded, trees trimmed, and Black Cats had taken position on rooftops. The city was ready for the rally of rallies; there were drums and dancers, lusty sloganeering and prostration as the procession sailed past, and the campaigner (in a different new headgear) waved vigorously at the crowds – a far cry from the stately regal march through the grey streets of London.

But the parallels are many: democracy or monarchy, there is a ruler and the ruled, there is the benefactor and the genuflecting masses, and as is tradition in our familial setup, parent ensures handover of legacy to the son/daughter. Almost like passing on the crown, sceptre and sword, along with the kingdom. Mufasa to Simba. The objectives are the same: power, domination, supremacy.

With elections done and dusted, we are pumped up that our democracy is alive and vibrant, and eagerly await the coronation of our own local chieftain. There are many who would be king, though it is said that uneasy lies the head that wears the crown (those who saw Charles III under his decorated headgear will vouch for it). We are a worshipful country, we love our gods and kings, and this is our version of democracy.

God save the King! And God save our democracy!

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICE
CHANGE OF NAME

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **(OLD NAME) ALLAH BAKASH SHAHB,** residing at No. 114/1, 3rd Cross, 1st Main, Udaya Nagar, Near Old Madras Road, Bangalore-560016, have changed my name from **(OLD NAME) ALLAH BAKASH SHAHB** to **(NEW NAME) ALLAH BAKASH** vide affidavit Dated 15/05/2023 sworn before Notary Chandrashekaraiah.S, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **ANUGNA DODDIGANAHALLI CHANDRASHEKAR,** D/o Chandrashekar Doddiganahalli Subramanyam, aged about 27 years, R/at No. 2891, 11th Cross, Extension R.P. Road, Nanjangud Town, Mysuru District-571301, Karnataka, India do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **ANUGNA CHANDRASHEKHAR DODGANAHALLI** to **ANUGNA DODDIGANAHALLI CHANDRASHEKAR**, henceforth I shall be known and called as **ANUGNA DODDIGANAHALLI CHANDRASHEKAR** only for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 15th May 2023, sworn before Advocate and notary **D.K. RAMESHAPPA** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SANTHA**, residing at No.1, KSRTC Layout, 2nd Cross, 7th Main, J.P Nagar 2nd Phase, Bangalore-560078, have changed my name to **SANTHA SEETHARAM IYER**, vide affidavit dated 11.05.2023, sworn before notary Hegde Ganapati Venkataraman, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, SERVICE NO 16127270W SPR ASHOK KUMAR .G 11 ENGR REGT, 409 FD COY, C/O 99 APO, Have Changed My Brother Name **(OLD NAME) G. KUMARASEN** to **(NEW NAME) KUMARESAN .G** Vide Affidavit Dated 12.05.2023 Sworn Before Notary MEER HASSAN BANGALORE.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **(OLD NAME) MAHADEVI MALLAPPA NAIK** Spouse of NO 16121225N NK MALLAPPA NAYIK Residing at Post-Madaval, Taluk- Gokak, Dist-Belgavi, State- KARNATAKA, PIN: 591101, Have changed My Name to **(NEW NAME) MAHADEVI MALLAPPA NAYIK** Vide Affidavit Dated 03.05.2023 Sworn Before Notary B.V. NAGABHUSHANA BANGALORE.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **NISHA S**, W/o. Thulasidas .K, and Residing at No. 26, Kambhoji Vinayaka Layout, Byappanahalli Village, Bidarahalli, Bengaluru - 560 049, KARNATAKA, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **NISHAMOL .S** to **NISHA S** vide affidavit dated 12.05.2023 sworn to before M. Radhamma, Advocate & Notary Public, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **BIJOY JACK JESSE JESSELAN** R/at No.S4, Vintage Prime Apartment, 4th Block, 4th Main, HBR Layout, Hennur Main Road, Bangalore-560043, have changed my name to **BIJOY JACK JESSE** vide affidavit dated: 12/5/2023 Before Notary **C.Sharda** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SATISH KUMAR CHANDRABABU** R/at No.587, 23rd A Main 19th Cross, HSR Layout Sector 2, Bengaluru-560102, have changed my minor Son's name From **SHRAVAN KARTHIK** To **SHRAVAN KARTHIK SATISHKUMAR** vide affidavit dated: 15/5/2023 Before Notary **Prakasha.C** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **(OLD NAME) SUNILKUMAR BHASKER,** S/o. Bhaskar.S. residing at No. 21/F, 59th 'A' Cross, 4th N Block, Rajajinagar, Bangalore-560010, have changed my name from **(OLD NAME) SUNILKUMAR BHASKER** to **(NEW NAME) SUNILKUMAR BHASKAR** vide affidavit Dated 15/05/2023 sworn before Notary Prakasha.C., Bangalore.

AFFIDAVIT
I, **N.K. VASANTH KUMAR,** aged about 47 years, R/at Neriga Village, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru-562125, do hereby declare that my son's correct name is **AKARSH SANJAY KUMAR .N.V** but in birth certificate his name is mentioned as **AKARSH SANJAY KUMAR** instead of **AKARSH SANJAY KUMAR .N.V**, vide affidavit dated 15-05-2023, sworn before Advocate and Notary **VYSHALI .K** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **Sri ASHOK .K,** age 43 years, S/o Sri M. Kuppa Raju, R/at No.397-1, Near Chamundeswari Temple Gulpet, Kolar, Bangarpet Kolar, Karnataka-563 101, currently R/at No. 20, KCA Layout, 2nd Cross, near Kothnur Bus Stop, JP Nagar VIII Phase, Bangalore-78 do hereby declare that I have changed my minor daughter's name from **RUSHIKA .A** to **RASHMIKA .A,** henceforth she shall be known and called as **RASHMIKA .A** only for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 13th May 2023, sworn before Advocate and Notary **MOHAMMED HUSSAIN .K** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **(OLD NAME) JULIETMALA** Spouse of NO JC- 311053X SUB MAJ P. PAUL RAJ, Residing at House NO- 33, East Panchappur (Vill), Manicandam (Post), Srirangam (TK), Trichy (Dist), TAMIL NADU (State), PIN: 620012, Have Changed My Name to **(NEW NAME) P. JULIETMALA,** Vide Affidavit Dated 12.05.2023 Sworn Before Notary MEER HASSAN BANGALORE.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SARASVATHI**, (MANI SAMUEL), Aged about 74 years, W/o. Samuel, Residing at No. 3226, 13th Cross, 6th C Main, HAL 2nd Stage, Indiranagar, Bengaluru - 560 038, do hereby declare that my actual and real name is **SARASVATHI,** but my personal records such as Aadhar Card, Passport, Voter ID all are made in the name of **MANI SAMUEL**. Now I have changed my name **MANI SAMUEL** to **SARASVATHI** only. Vide affidavit dated 11.05.2023 sworn to before Dr. R.S. Vijay, Notary Public, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **JANANI NAGARAJAN**, D/o. Nagarajan A, Resident of Site No. 17, H.No. 38, 1st Floor, Sharadha Nagar, Chikkabommasandra, Opposite to Ankad Residency, Yelahanka New Town, Bengaluru - 560 065, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **JANANI** to **JANANI NAGARAJAN** vide affidavit dated 12.05.2023 sworn to before B.M. Chandrashekar, Advocate & Notary Public, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **CALVIN HEMANTH IRUTHAYA NATHAN,** R/at Flat No.103 SBM GREENS JR Layout, 1st Cross Road, Chelekere, 1st Block, Bengaluru- 560043, have changed my name to **CALVIN IRUTHAYA NATHAN** vide affidavit dated: 12/5/2023 Before Notary **C.Sharada** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **RANJITHA RAMURTHI** R/at No.4035, 17th Main, 28th Cross, B N M Collage, Banashankari 2nd Satge, Bengaluru- 560070, have changed my minor Son's Name from **VIVANT PRAVAN REDDY** To **VIVANT REDDY** vide affidavit dated: 15/5/2023 Before Notary **Prakasha. C,** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **(OLD NAME) AKSHITH BHASKER,** S/o. Bhaskar.S. residing at No. 21/F, 59th 'A' Cross, 4th N Block, Rajajinagar, Bangalore-560010, have changed my name from **(OLD NAME) AKSHITH BHASKER** to **(NEW NAME) AKSHITH BHASKAR** vide affidavit Dated 15/05/2023 sworn before Notary Prakasha.C., Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **Mrs. VIDYA MAHESH KALE** W/o Sri Kale Mahesh Gorakhnath, presently R/at PL No.603, Purva Panorama Apartment, Bannerghatta Road, Kalena Agrahara, Bangalore-560076, Do hereby solemnly affirm that I Have changed my name from **JOGDANDE VIDYA SAMPATH** to **VIDYA MAHESH KALE**, henceforth my name will be, **VIDYA MAHESH KALE**, in all my record and documents vide Affidavit dated 12th May 2023 before Advocate and Notary, **K.C.Chowde Gowda**, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **Sri ASHOK .K,** age 43 years, S/o Sri M. Kuppa Raju, R/at No.397-1, Near Chamundeswari Temple Gulpet, Kolar, Bangarpet Kolar, Karnataka-563 101, currently R/at No. 20, KCA Layout, 2nd Cross, near Kothnur Bus Stop, JP Nagar VIII Phase, Bangalore-78 do hereby declare that I have changed my minor son's name from **SHASHANK .A** to **SUHAS .A**, henceforth he shall be known and called as **SUHAS .A** only for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 13th May 2023, sworn before Advocate and Notary **MOHAMMED HUSSAIN .K** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, SERVICE NO 15322593H HAV THIRUPATHI RAO MUDDAPU of unit: TV COY, TRG BN- III, MEG & CENTRE, BANGALORE 560033, Have Changed My Name Self **(OLD NAME) THIRUPATHI RAO MUDDAPU** to **(NEW NAME) MUDDAPU TIRUPATHI RAO,** Vide Affidavit Dated 12.05.2023 Sworn Before Notary MEER HASSAN BANGALORE.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **PATTHI BACHEPALLE VENKATA PRASAD**, DOB : 20.12.1994, S/o. Mr. Patthi Bachepalle Venkata Rayudu, presently residing at House No. 970, 2nd Cross, 6th Main, Chowdeshwari Layout, Tulasi Theatre Road, Marathahalli, Bangalore - 560 037, Karnataka and permanent resident of House No. 2-64, Alamur Post, Rudravaram Mandal, Kurnool District, Andhra Pradesh - 518 543, India, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **PATHI BACHEPALLI VENKATA PRASAD** to **PATTHI BACHEPALLE VENKATA PRASAD** and my father's old name is **PATHI BACHEPALLI VENKATA RAMUDU** and New Name is **PATTHI BACHEPALLE VENKATA RAYUDU** vide affidavit dated 15.05.2023 sworn to before K.V. Jagannath Reddy, Advocate & Notary Public, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **MUKTHA MANJUNATH PAI,** W/o. Manjunath Gopal Pai, Aged about 75 years, R/at No. 51, S-HIG-C-4th Block, KHB 5th Phase, Yelahanka New Town, Bangalore North, Bangalore, Karnataka - 560 064, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **C. MUKTHA** to **MUKTHA MANJUNATH PAI** vide affidavit dated 15.05.2023 sworn to before G.R. Ravichandra Reddy, Advocate & Notary, Government of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **MUNISONNA GOWDA**, R/at No.138, Kasturi Nivas Road, Thanisandra, DR Shivarama Karanth Nagar, Bengaluru-560077, have changed my name to **MUNISONNE GOWDA** vide affidavit dated: 15/5/2023 Before Notary **Prakasha .C** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **YASHASWINI RAAMESH** R/at No.165/ 166, Akshahanthre, 7th Cross, 2nd Main, Royal County, J P Nagar 8th Phase, Bengaluru- 560076, have changed my name to **YASHASWINI SUDEEP** vide affidavit dated: 8/5/2023 Before Notary **R.T.Krishnamurthy** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **MANONMANI** W/o Jeevan Kumar Aged about 65 years, resident of No B-511, Brigade Meadows Plumeria, Kanakapara Road, Salu Hunase Village, Kaggalipura, Bangalore-82, have changed my name from **MANONMANI** to **MANONMANI JEEVAN** for all purposes vide affidavit Reg No.12464, sworn before notary HG Padmanabharao, dated: 13th May 2023.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **AVICHAL SINHA**, S/o Arun Kumar Sinha, aged about 39 years, R/at Flat No. 502, 61, Ritu Residency, 11th Main Road, Maruthi Layout, Astanga Ayurvedalaya, Hongasandra, Bengaluru South, Bengaluru-560068, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **AVICHAL KUMAR SINHA** to **AVICHAL SINHA,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **AVICHAL SINHA** only, vide affidavit dated 15-05-2023, sworn before Advocate and Notary **B. CHITRA** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **EMILY JENCY RANI.D.,** Daughter of EX-SERVICEMEN NO.7230652, RANK-S/ROR, NAME : N.DAVID [LATE], Residing at NO.10, 2ND CROSS, S.B.I. BANK COLONY, OPP. BHARATH PETROL BUNK ANANDAPURA, T.C.PALYA, BENGALURU NORTH, KRISHNARAJAPURAM, BENGALURU-560036, KARNATAKA, I declare that, I have changed my name from **EMILY JANCY RANI** (Old Name) to **EMILY JENCY RANI.D.** (New Name), henceforth my father shall be known and called as **EMILY JENCY RANI.D.** (New Name) & Date of Birth : 09/01/1973 only for all purpose, also declare that, these both names i.e. **EMILY JENCY RANI.D. & EMILY JANCY RANI** refers, pertains and belongs to one and the same person i.e. myself only, vide Affidavit dated : 15/05/2023 before Notary **GANGARAJU.B.N.** at BENGALURU

AFFIDAVIT
I, **Ashok Kumar Mehta S/o. Premchand, age 52 years, resident at #7, 4th cross road, Ashoknagar, Banashankari, Bengaluru. I declare that my name is Ashok Kumar Mehta, but in passport of my daughter, Riya Mehta it's mentioned as Ashok Mehta instead of Ashok Kumar Mehta. The name ASHOK MEHTA and ASHOK KUMAR MEHTA belongs to me, and both names belongs to one and the same person. I declare this as per affidavit dated 14-05-2023, sworn before advocate and notary Jayappa. A, Bengaluru.**

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **GANGA MARAD,** (vide Passport No. R2103566, DOB: 01.06.1995) D/o. Mr. Sharanappa Marad & W/o. Mr. Vijayakumar Kappali, Residing at House No. 2787, 10th Cross, Shivapete Area, Ron, Gadag District, Karnataka - 582 209, India, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **GANGAVVA** to **GANGA MARAD** vide affidavit dated 15.05.2023 sworn to before K.V. Jagannath Reddy, Advocate & Notary Public, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

AFFIDAVIT
I, **SUBRAHMANYA BHAT**, S/o. Narayana Bhat, Aged about 64 years, R/at No. 3, 3rd Cross, Byraveshwara Nagar, Sunkadakatte, Near Shanthi Dhama School Road, Vishwaneedam, Bangalore - 560 091, do hereby submit that my correct name is **SUBRAHMANYA BHAT** but my name was mentioned in the passport as **SUBRAMANYA**. I hereby declare that both the names belongs to me only. I retain my Aadhar card name **SUBRAHMANYA BHAT** Vide affidavit dated 15.05.2023 sworn to before Dr. R.S. Vijay, Notary Public, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **RIZWAN KHAN ISMAIL KHAN** R/at No.138, Armstrong Road Bharathinagar Bengaluru- 560001, have changed my name to **RIZWAN KHAN** vide affidavit dated: 15/5/2023 Before Notary **C.V.Earappa** Bangalore.

ANNOUNCEMENT
WE, B HARISH AND CHINNAPALLI LALITHA Parents of Sahasra Harish, residing at Flat No. 202, Arka Residency, Electronic City, Phase I, Bengaluru-560100, State That in Our Daughter's Birth Certificate Her Name is Entered as **SAHASRA HARISH** Instead of **GUNA SAHASRA HARISH** and Our Names are Entered as **HARISH AND LALITHA** Instead of Our Correct Name **B HARISH AND CHINNAPALLI LALITHA,** We Further Declare That Our Daughter's Correct is **GUNA SAHASRA HARISH** and Our Correct Names are **B HARISH AND CHINNAPALLI LALITHA** Vide Affidavit Dated 26.04.2023 Sworn Before Notary J Ananda Kumar, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SURYANARAYANA** S/o Kuntaiah, aged about 44 years, residing at no: F-148, BEL Layout, Bharat Nagar 1st Stage, East West College Road, Anjananagar, Bengaluru - 560 091, I have changed my daughter name Old name **CHINMAI.S** to New name **LAKSHYA.S** vide affidavit dated 13.05.2023 Sworn before notary N S Raja Gopal.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SMT. KUSUMA SANJAY,** aged about 47 years, W/o Sri Sanjay Suryanarayana, No. T-1, Red Tree Classic, 7th B Main, 3rd Block, Narayannagar, Bangalore-560062, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **KUSUMA SANJAY** to **KUSUMA NAIDU,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **KUSUMA NAIDU** only, vide affidavit dated 15-05-2023, sworn before Advocate and Notary **VARIJA .C.J** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SUCHIT RAMACHANDRA** (New Name), S/o RAMACHANDRA, Aged about 27 years, Resident at NO.P.40, SECTOR-12, 9TH-A-MAIN, L.I.C. COLONY, JEEVANBHIMANAGAR, HAL 3RD STAGE, BENGALURU-560075, declare that I have changed my name from **SUCHIT** (Old Name) to **SUCHIT RAMACHANDRA** (New Name), henceforth I shall be known and called as **SUCHIT RAMACHANDRA** (New Name)for all my personal, official & legal purpose, vide Affidavit dated : 15/05/2023 before Notary **N.NARAYANA SWAMY** at BENGALURU

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **(OLD NAME) M KUMARI** Spouse of NO 15322593H HAV THIRUPATHI RAO MUDDAPU, Residing at Panchayathi Street, Udayapuram (Vill), Palasa (MD & TK), Srikakulam (Dist), ANDHRA PRADESH (State), PIN: 532221, Have Changed My Name to **(NEW NAME) MUDDAPU KUMARI** Vide Affidavit Dated 12.05.2023 Sworn Before Notary MEER HASSAN BANGALORE.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **AKSHAY ALWANDI**, S/o. Ramesh Bhat Alwandi and Residing at No. 2731, Aathri, 17th C Cross, Siddanna Layout, Near Banashankari 2nd Stage Post Office, Bangalore-560 070, Karnataka, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **AKSHAY ALAWANDI** to **AKSHAY ALWANDI** vide affidavit dated 15.05.2023 sworn to before M. Radhamma, Advocate & Notary Public, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **PRAJKTA AVINASH KULKARNI, D/o AVINASH VINAYAK KULKARNI** and **W/o SHRIHARI JAYANT KULKARNI,** residing at FLAT-305 DOLLARS PARADISE 21&22 4TH MAIN MARUTHI EXTN, NAGASHETTYHALLI, Bengaluru - 560094 , Karnataka, India, changed my name from **PRAJKTA KULKARNI** to **PRAJKTA AVINASH KULKARNI** vide affidavit dated 15.05.2023 sworn before Notary JALANDHARA at Bangalore. Henceforth, I shall be known as **PRAJKTA AVINASH KULKARNI** for all purposes.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SEJAL PRAVEEN DEDHIA,** R/at No.50/51, Flat 302, 3rd B Cross, Arihant Comforts, Okalipuram, Bangalore- 560021, have changed my name to **SEJAL HITESHKUMAR RAJYAGURU** vide affidavit dated:15/5/2023 Before Notary **K.V.Mani** Bangalore.

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I AM NOT GEN Z AT ALL: SREELEELA

The actor gets candid about her journey in the film industry and her growing popularity in Telugu

A SHARADHAA

In 2019, Sreeleela made her acting debut with AP Arjun's *Kiss*. Winning the hearts of the Kannada audience right from her first film, Sreeleela took all the right steps as *Bharaate, By 2 Love,* and the upcoming pan-India project Junior with debutant Kireeti Reddy solidified her position in the Kannada cinema. One such right step for the skilled dancer and medicine student was spreading her wings to Telugu cinema, much like some of her illustrious predecessors, Rashmika Mandanna and Shraddha Srinath.

While Sreeleela made her Telugu debut with *Pelli SandaD,* her sophomore project, *Dhamaka,* won her hearts in Telugu cinema too. Juggling between multiple projects, Sreeleela is currently onboard Ram Pothineni's next with director Boyapati Srinu, a project with Telugu superstar Balakrishna, Vijay Devarakonda's maiden collaboration with Gautam Tinnanuri, and the much-awaited Pawan Kalyan-Harish Shankar reunion, among others. With the projects in hand, it is clear that Sreeleela is turning into a force to be reckoned with.

Despite her busy schedule, the talented actor maintains a positive attitude, and thanks her mother for efficiently managing her schedule and easing up the burden. "To be frank, I enjoy acting, and it is no stress for me. People have done it all before, and I know there is nothing that I am doing new. So, I am just loving how I get to switch between so many characters. One day, I am playing a next-door girl, and the next day, I am playing a brat. What has really surprised me is how the audience has started addressing me by my characters," says Sreeleela.

Considering how Sreeleela's stellar lineup in Telugu includes films with superstars like Balakrishna and Pawan Kalyan, younger stars like Nithin, Ram, and Vijay Deverakonda, and up-and-coming stars like Panja Vaishnav Tej and Kireeti Reddy, it is clear that Sreeleela is the toast of Telugu cinema right now. "Sharing screen space with these actors has only helped in developing my acting range. I observe each of these actors, their preparation, and their behaviour on set. It is fascinating how each actor brings in something different, and I am enjoying this process of observation and learning. Genuinely, it has been a blessing to work with each one of them," says Sreeleela.

The actor will soon start working on *VD 12*, her upcoming project with Vijay Devarakonda. "I was thrilled when I heard the story. It is very interesting and will definitely be a standout film in my career," says Sreeleela, adding, "Right from the time I saw *Jersey,* I wanted to work with Gautam Tinnanuri. In fact, I see this opportunity as the result of my heartfelt manifestation about collaborating with him," she adds.

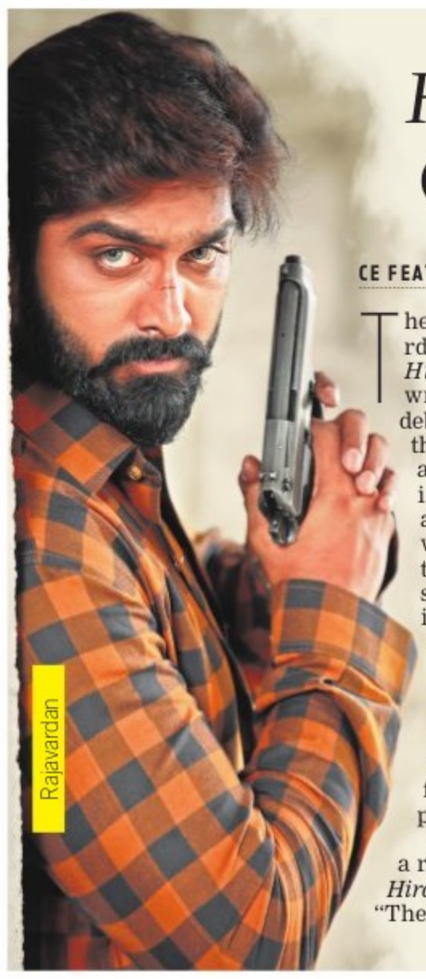
While Sreeleela calls Kannada cinema her home, she is comfortable with Telugu too, and asserts the importance of learning languages to perform well. "Even if it is a French film, I will learn the language and be a part of it. I believe that is what makes it real," says Sreeleela, who goes on to reveal that she is receiving offers from Malayalam and Tamil cinema too, but has put them on hold. With so many offers coming her way, is there a specific kind of role that she wishes comes her way? "I love rom-coms, and if there is a compelling story that comes my way, I would love to do it. Another dream of mine is to be part of period films, which I hope happens soon."

In Kannada, Sreeleela has completed the talkie portions for *Junior*, which is directed by Radhakrishna, and marks the acting debut of political leader Janardhan Reddy's son Kireeti Reddy. "I never want people to feel that I am too busy in Telugu and will not work in Kannada. They should know that Sandalwood is my home. When *Kantara* was released, I felt close to home because even when shooting for the Telugu films, I had many from the cast and crew appreciate Kannada cinema. I am never truly away from Kannada cinema," says Sreeleela, adding, "I have been getting a lot of women-centric film offers in Kannada, but I don't think I have developed the abilities to shoulder a film yet. I do dream about such roles, but it is important to be practical too."

It is interesting how Sreeleela has joined the small but growing list of medicos-turned-actors that already has names like Sai Pallavi and Aishwarya Lekshmi. "I think both the professions I have chosen for myself come to the same endpoint. They are different directions to the same core. Both these professions are directly related to people. While cinema is to entertain them, being a doctor is helping them. At the end of the day, it is still a service."

Wrapping up the conversation, Sreeleela dreamily ventures into a more personal zone as she opens up about being an old-school person stuck in the modern digital era. "I don't identify myself as a Gen Z at all. I feel I belong to that era when Rekha, Sridevi, and Lakshmi ruled the silver screen. They are all my favourite actors. People ask me who my favorite is, and when I respond with their names, they look at me like I am from another planet. Even my playlist comprises songs mostly from black and white movies," signs off Sreeleela, giving us a brief glimpse into her world away from the glitz, glamour, and superstardom.

> **I have been getting a lot of women-centric film offers in Kannada, but I don't think I have developed the abilities to shoulder a film yet. I do dream about such roles, but it is important to be practical too**
>
> — Sreeleela, actor



HIRANYA HAS TRANSFORMED ME INTO A COMPLETE ACTION HERO: RAJAVARDAN

CE FEATURES

The shooting of Rajavardan's upcoming film, *Hiranya*, was recently wrapped up. Directed by debutant Praveen Avyukth, the film was shot in and around Bengaluru. Billing *Hiranya* as an out-and-out action drama with a strong sentimental core, Rajavardhan says, "I have participated in seven significant fights in the film, each being filmed for over 10 to 20 days. The budget for each of these stunts was substantial too. This movie has transformed me into a complete action hero."

Attributing his debut as a reason for being offered *Hiranya,* Rajavardhan says, "The makers offered me this role after watching the action sequences in my debut, *Bicchugatti.* The number of fight sequences, choreographed by Vinod and Arjun, in *Hiranya* is twice as many as those in my first movie."

Praveen Avyukth, who has previously directed short films, is making his full-fledged directorial debut with *Hiranya*. The movie also marks the debut of Rihana in Kannada and features Divya Suresh in a unique role. Huli Karthik, Aravind Rao, and Dilip Shetty are also part of the cast.

With cinematography by Yogeswaran R, Judah Sandy has composed the music.for Hiranya, which is backed by Vedas Infinite Picture, and the team is currently busy with post-production work. They are aiming to release the movie as soon as possible.

Brinda Acharya set to headline *Ritu*

CE FEATURES

Brinda Acharya, who gained limelight with her role in *Premam Poojyam,* and was last seen in *Juliet 2*, has signed another interesting project.

Titled *Ritu*, the film is written, directed, and produced by Dr Gowri Shree. *Ritu* stars Brinda in the titular role and is Gowri Shree's third film after *Janarakshaka* and *Amulya*. The film went on floors on Tuesday. "*Ritu,* which means seasons, is based on a true story from Mandya. I play a bubbly, independent girl whose life undergoes twists and turns after her marriage," says Brinda, who expresses her elation in working with a woman director.

Apart from Brinda, *Ritu* stars Aryan, Surendra, Shobhraj, Nagendra Urs, Laya Kokila, Aradhya, and Tejeswini in crucial roles.

The film has Hemanth scoring the music, and Sandeep Honnali as the cinematographer.

Meanwhile, Brinda will also be seen in Shashank's upcoming movie, *Koushalya Surpraja Rama,* and another Kannada project, which is in the works. The actor is also set to make her Tamil debut with a VFX-heavy film.

The women-centric film, directed by Dr Gowri Shree, goes on floors from Tuesday

Brinda Acharya

Varun Dhawan to collaborate with Atlee for action film

Varun Dhawan will soon be collaborating with director Atlee Kumar and producer Murad Khetani for an action-entertainer. As per a report in Pinkvilla, the film will hit theatres in summer 2024.

The report also stated that the yet-to-be-titled film will go on floors by July-end or early August. As source told Pinkvilla, "Varun has been in talks with Atlee and Murad Khetani for a feature film for a while now and the actor is all set to commence shooting for the same by early August."

The report added, "It's a proper commercial entertainer and at present in the pre-production stage. The team is coming together to create a big-scale action experience for the audience."

While stating that the female lead and antagonist will be locked by June, the source said, "While the story is high on emotion and drama, action is at the forefront and the team is looking to create stylish and larger than life sequences for Varun. The film will be shot over a period of four to five months as the makers are targeting it to be the big summer 2024 release in cinema halls across the globe."

The report also stated that the film will be produced by Atlee and Murad. When it comes to other projects, Atlee is gearing up for *Jawan* starring Shah Rukh Khan, Nayanthara and Vijay Sethupathi.

Brahma Kamala to be screened at Melbourne Indian Film Festival

Director Siddu Poornchandra's *Brahma Kamala* is set to be screened at the Melbourne Indian Film Festival. The film has already won several awards and accolades at various film festivals, including the Eediplay International Film Festival in France, the Wonderland International Film Festival in Sydney, and the Old Monk International Film Festival in Nepal.

The film's lead actor, Advithi Shetty, has also won the Best Actor award at the Indo-Singapore Film Festival. *Brahma Kamala* has been selected for screening at several other prestigious film festivals, including the Dada Saheb Phalke, Arunodaya, and Kalakari Film Festivals. Expressing his confidence in the film's unique storyline, Siddu says, "I had faith in this subject right from the beginning because of its unique storyline. We are confident that this film will receive many more awards."

Brahma Kamala is based on a true incident that occurred in a village near Ramnagar. The film's music is composed by Ananth Aryan and Loka Surya and Deepu are in charge of cinematography and editing, respectively.

Advithi Shetty